



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

FBIS-AFR-90-057
Friday
23 March 1990

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Gambian, Guinean Heads Arrive in Senegal for Talks

*AB2003104290 Dakar Domestic Service in French
2200 GMT 19 Mar 90*

[Text] Presidents Dawda Jawara of the Gambia and Lansana Conte of Guinea were in Dakar this afternoon and were welcomed by President Abdou Diouf with whom they held talks. Earlier today, Presidents Jawara and Conte were in Nouakchott where they also held talks with the Mauritanian authorities on the conflict between Mauritania and Senegal that has lasted for one year. Abdou Demba Kane has the report.

[Kane] Yes, it was at 1500 that the Gambian aircraft landed at Dakar-Yoff International Airport with the Gambian and Guinean presidents on board. Ten minutes later, discussions started at the hall of the Presidential Pavilion, where President Abdou Diouf, several Senegalese ministers and experts, top officials of the Gambian and Guinean delegations and their presidents held talks lasting for over two hours. Aspects of the Senegal-Mauritania conflict were discussed during the talks. President Jawara of the Gambia later disclosed to the press. [passage indistinct] The Gambian leader also expressed great optimism for a rapid solution to the conflict. Dr. Jawara did not give any details about the main points at issue, notably about the demand for compensation formulated by Mauritians who were repatriated from Senegal, nor about the border problem for which Dakar is demanding the respect of the border demarcations inherited from colonial times.

In a statement made before his departure from Nouakchott a few hours earlier, President Lansana Conte, one of the guest mediators on this mission, said: We are all one people. Conte added: We all feel highly concerned so we cannot sit back and look on with folded arms. It is necessary for all leaders in the subregion to contribute toward finding a solution to the conflict. We are going to persevere, President Conte said.

So, this mission leaves room for optimism as it was well received by both sides. The mission is in line with the global mediatory efforts by the current OAU chairman, as President Abdou Diouf pointed out on his return from Conakry last week. A report on the outcome of today's mission will be made to President Mubarak of Egypt as soon as possible.

Meet Senegal's Diouf, Depart

*AB2003120590 Dakar PANA in English 0958 GMT
20 Mar 90*

[Text] Dakar, 20 March (APS-SEN/PANA)—The Gambian President, Dawda Jawara, who with his Guinean counterpart, Lansana Conte, met Senegalese President Abdou Diouf for a two-hour discussions on Monday [19 March], has said that the mediation of the Senegal-Mauritanian conflict "is actively going on".

Jawara and Conte were earlier in Nouakchott to discuss with the Mauritanian president Sid'Ahmed Ould Taya as part of the negotiation process.

Speaking to newsmen in Dakar, the Gambian president noted the warm reception accorded the mediation team both in Nouakchott and Dakar, adding that the discussions with Diouf and Taya were "very deep".

According to Jawara, "the issue has to do with establishing peace, not between two men, but between two countries, which can only be done through a process to which we are committed."

"The situation worries us at the sub-regional level," he continued, "and we shall do all that we can to bring about peace by supporting the other mediations, especially that of Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, the OAU chairman," Jawara said.

The leaders of Gambia and Guinea, Senegal's neighbors left Dakar on Monday.

Chad**Red Cross Group Visits To Discuss Libyan Prisoners***AB2203180590 Paris AFP in French 1225 GMT
22 Mar 90*

[Text] Paris, 22 Mar (AFP)—A delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) arrived yesterday in Ndjamena where it has been holding discussions with the 53 Libyan prisoners released by the Chadian authorities in September 1989, it was learned from informed sources in Paris.

These former prisoners, mostly sick persons, adolescents, and injured persons are at the disposal of the Red Cross which can take charge of them at any moment, the same source disclosed.

The prisoners were released on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the Libyan Revolution. At that time, Ndjamena had announced that it was making a "gesture of goodwill and brotherhood" to the "brotherly people of Libya." But Tripoli refused to receive the prisoners, thus showing its determination to solve as a whole the problem of its prisoners, estimated at about 2,000.

The namelist of the 53 Libyan prisoners, specifying their dates and places of birth as well as their families' current residences were given to the ICRC a month ago, it has been specified.

According to informed sources, Chad hopes to cooperate with the ICRC in handling all its Libyan prisoners and will allow unaccompanied visits, health care delivery, and the exchange of correspondence.

Gabon**Chinese Vice Premier Arrives 22 Mar, To Meet Bongo***AB2303130690 Libreville Africa No 1 in French
0730 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] The Chinese vice premier arrived in Libreville last night for a five-day friendly and working visit to Gabon. Mr. Wu Xueqian will be received late this morning by President Omar Bongo.

Exiled Opposition Head Lists Meeting Conditions*AB2203112390 Paris AFP in French 1732 GMT
21 Mar 90*

[Text] Dakar, 21 Mar (AFP)—Pierre Mamboundou, chairman of the Union of Gabonese People (UPG, opposition faction to President Bongo's regime), today said in Dakar that he was ready to take part in the national conference but under certain conditions. The conference is scheduled to take place in Libreville from 23 to 30 March in order to draw up the status of the

Gabonese Social Democratic Rally. In a telephone conversation with AFP this afternoon in Dakar, Mr. Mamboundou reiterated his willingness along with his party, to take part in the national conference proposed by President Bongo, on the condition that all political prisoners are unconditionally released and that the Gabonese Government agrees to guarantee the security of the members and partisans of the UPG during the conference in order to prevent any "direct or disguised reprisals" against them.

The Gabonese opposition leader also asked for "increased security for his militants coming from abroad" and "total security and freedom of movement for his militants within Gabonese territory and freedom to leave whenever the need arises." If all these conditions are not met, we will understand that this national conference is just a trap into which we will not fall," he said, adding that he notified the Gabonese authorities of this in a letter sent last Friday.

The chairman of the UPG refused to give details about the conditions of his residence in Dakar, where he has been living in exile since his expulsion on 28 February from Paris by the French authorities. He said he was well treated and free to circulate but that he "had to accept some conditions" in order not to "embarrass the Senegalese authorities." He concluded by saying that before his departure from Paris, "his life was threatened," adding that he wrote to French President Francois Mitterrand about the conditions under which he had been expelled from France.

*** Riots Raise Doubts About Single Party System***34190071A Dakar SUD HEBDO in French
25 Jan 90 p 12*

[Commentary by Demba Ndiaye: "Gabon: Disorder Versus Injustice"; first paragraph is SUD HEBDO introduction]

[Text] On 17 and 18 January, Libreville experienced several tense hours as young elementary and secondary school students burst onto the social and political scene. The initial estimate is that there were 250 arrests and 50 people seriously injured. Oumar Bongo, who says he prefers "injustice to disorder," has just learned at his own expense that often it is "injustice" that produces "disorders."

In 1988, when Senegal was going through a period of political turbulence, the Gabonese president had harsh words to say on the subject of the Senegalese democratic system which, according to him, would bring about disorder and destabilization, a refrain dear to autocrats locked into dictatorships termed "good" for Africa under the circumstances. It is an irony of fate and history's revenge that Gabon, a stable country and a "monolithic paradise," has just tottered, having been shaken by young people who are stifled and living with the aftereffects of adjustment policies and rampant unemployment. In a word, the students' demands for

better schools and more teachers, demands that the Gabonese prime minister has called "justified," are the translation of [the phrase] "no future," which seems to be the lot of youth on this continent. The fact that a few "foreign delinquents" may have taken advantage of the students' movement does not in any way diminish the youngsters' rejection of economic policies that favor popular austerity over a blossoming of the people. And it would be mistaken to see in this looting only the work "of strangers in an irregular situation." In early December, the Gabonese president told the weekly magazine *MARCHES TROPICAUX* that "economic measures have now reached the economically, socially, and, therefore, politically bearable limit." It is the effects of this "unbearable" policy that youth can no longer put up with because it is "unjust" and that President Bongo prefers to disorder. There is a limit to permanence and the acceptance of injustice. In a country blessed with good economic health, despite the drop in the price of oil, which accounts for 80 percent of hard currency resources, as it drained the cup to the dregs in 1989, urged on by the IMF, the Gabonese Government agreed to reduce by 20 percent the salaries of 40,000 parastatal sector officials and workers, refusing to have this measure affect only top salaries, as the IMF had recommended.

Leveling from below.... Following the terrible brutality on the part of police who pursued students into their rooms, there was panic among those at the top, who sent out a veritable SOS to France. Urgently needed was antimob materiel such as teargas bombs and rubber bullets. Furthermore, French troops stationed at the Libreville airport, about 500 men, were confined to their barracks. The funny part about this episode is that on Sunday, 14 January, or three days before the riots, as Oumar Bongo was declaring the "need for a single party," Bernard Kouchner, the secretary of state for humanitarian action, was saying in Paris "that, following the collapse of dictatorships in Europe, we must now attack the single party system in the Third World," in particular, in that large dark zone that is Africa. Everyone still remembers the "duty to interfere," a concept formulated by Paris in the face of events in Romania. It is a test for Paris....

* French Aid for Airport Security, Mining Survey

34190071B Libreville L'UNION in French
24 Jan 90 p 8

[Article by Ndong-d'Akomayo: "Two Conventions Signed at Ministries of Defense and Hydrocarbons: One on Airport Security, the Other To Finance a Mining Survey"]

[Text] Yesterday afternoon Mr. Julien Mpouho-Epigat, the Minister of National Defense, Veteran Affairs, Mines and Hydrocarbons, and H.E. Louis Dominici, the French ambassador to Gabon, signed two finance conventions with the Aid and Cooperation Fund (FAC). The first convention is related to mining resources in the

region served by the Transgabonese [Railway]. What is involved in this instance is the ninth installment of the 5 million French francs allotted by France to this project, or a total of 250 million CFA [African Financial Community] francs.

This financing will make several loans possible, notably for the remainder of the general survey of the area assigned to the Geological and Mining Prospecting Office (BRGM), support for setting up and training the staffs of the petrography department of the General Directorate of Mines and Geology, in-depth prospecting of the mineral shows detected during earlier phases [of the project] (in particular, phosphates, rare earths, and gold), the prefeasibility study of the Mabounie phosphate deposit, and printing geological charts on the scale 1:200.

The second convention, which amounts to 350 million CFA francs, covers improvements to security at the Libreville airport. This project is part of a security plan aimed at a certain number of African airports. The Gabonese public will thus see installed at Leon Mba International Airport an X-ray baggage checking system, gates to detect weapons, an automatic checking and surveillance system, a network of walkie-talkies and portable metal detectors, and two canine surveillance teams.

On behalf of the government of the republic, the minister of national defense expressed his deep gratitude to the French Foreign Aid Mission which, by these two finance accords, reinforced the already longstanding and close bonds between our two countries in the areas of air transport (at a time when passenger security has been raising greater and greater concerns) and mining.

According to Mr. Julien Mpouho-Epigat, France's financial support and the technical assistance it has brought to research and mining in Gabon have meant that cooperation between the two countries is based on both friendship and reason. Considered a part of this are the extremely precarious and very rustic working conditions but also the need for up-to-date technical skills that Gabon has fortunately found with its French friends. Next to the minister of national defense, the presences of Generals Ossiali, Roux, and Doumbeneni could be noted.

* Oil Production at Rabi: 120,000 Barrels per Day

34190071C Libreville L'UNION in French
17 Jan 90 p 1

[Article: "Oil: Rabi-Kounga, Year I"]

[Text] It was a year and a day ago. It was on 16 January 1989, at precisely 0715 hours, that the first oil well at the Rabi-Kounga field went into production. The Shell-Gabon Company had been pleased to announce this beginning of production six months ahead of the date originally scheduled. Today Shell-Gabon can announce

that the 120,000 barrel per day mark has now been surpassed (production will eventually reach 135,000 barrels per day).

* First Horizontal Oil Well at Rabi-Kounga

34190071D Libreville L'UNION in French

28 Dec 89 p 6

[Article from AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE: "Rabi-Kounga: Shell-Gabon and the First Horizontal Well in Africa; Yield Should Be Greater Than Vertical Well"]

[Text] Shell-Gabon has just finished drilling the first horizontal oil well [operation] ever carried out on the African continent, it was learned Tuesday in Port-Gentil, the Gabonese economic capital, where this oil company's headquarters is located.

The oil well was drilled at the site of the Rabi-Kounga deposit, 250 km to the south of Port-Gentil, in the middle of the equatorial [rain] forest, with reserves being estimated at 480 million barrels. Called Rabi 53, the project required the use of ultramodern drilling techniques, and the well's yield should be greater than a conventional vertical well, since it should produce more than 6,000 barrels a day.

Using modern techniques, whose cost is greater than traditional techniques, should also help cut down on the number of wells necessary to develop the Rabi-Kounga deposit. The impact on the environment will thus be minimized because the number of drilling sites as well will be reduced to a minimum.

Rabi 53 was first drilled vertically to a depth of 300 meters, then at a 54-degree angle to reach a depth of 1,117 meters. A horizontal drain 570 meters long and 22 cm in diameter is at the end of this well, whose total length is 2,147 meters. It took a team of experts from various fields more than a year to prepare this drilling.

According to Shell-Gabon management, this "first" opens up new prospects for the development of Rabi-Kounga, but also for other oil fields in Gabon of more modest dimensions whose economic interest has thus far been viewed as marginal.

Shell-Gabon expects to drill several more wells of this type in 1990, thus putting itself in the forefront of progress in this area. The Rabi-Kounga deposit, it was explained again, which went into production last January, will reach its optimum production (135,000 barrels per day) by early next year. It is being run by Shell-Gabon for an association comprised of Elf-Gabon (29.458 percent), SNEA [National ELF-Aquitaine Company of France] (13.042 percent), the Gabonese state (15 percent), and Shell-Gabon (42.5 percent).

Zaire

Mobutu Meets High-Ranking SPLA Representatives

AB2203093890 Paris AFP in French 1807 GMT

21 Mar 90

[Text] Kinshasa, 21 Mar (AFP)—Two representatives of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA—armed opposition to the Khartoum regime) were received yesterday by Zairian Head of State Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko to discuss the restoration of peace to their country, official sources disclosed today in Kinshasa.

President Mobutu has been asked by the current chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the Egyptian head of state, Hosni Mubarak, to undertake a good offices mission to the two warring sides in Sudan to put an end to this seven-year old civil war. It is in line with this mission that Marshal Mobutu has received the two high-ranking SPLA representatives who said that they favor the cease-fire appeal launched recently by the Zairian head of state.

On 11 March, President Mobutu received the leader of the Sudanese military junta, Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, with whom he discussed the current situation in southern Sudan and appealed to the two warring sides to lay down their arms.

In a joint communique issued at the end of the Sudanese leader's quick visit to Kinshasa, Mr. Mobutu asked the two sides to begin negotiations aimed at finding a peaceful solution to this regional conflict.

* Belgian-Zairian Accords on Cooperation Signed

90E170263A Brussels LE SOIR in French

16 Feb 90 p 3

[Article by Colette Braeckman]

[Text] Six months after the Rabat agreement ending a nine-month crisis between Belgium and Zaire, the new political and cooperation relations have been finalized. Concluding a second week of negotiations, representatives of the two countries have initialed five accords that will serve as a future basis for reference.

High-ranking Belgian and Zairian officials joined together in December and February to draft the text of these agreements and initialed them on Thursday. The texts will be forwarded to both governments for their approval and then officially signed by the ministers in question. Eyskens, who has long wanted to go to Zaire, can finally pack his bags. His trip is scheduled for March.

The agreements signed cover all relations between Belgium and Zaire, including a general convention, a kind of overall "umbrella," a cooperation agreement between the two countries, a protocol of agreement on the status

of Belgian cooperation personnel, a protocol of agreement on the training of Zairian cadres, and finally, a special arrangement on the Bilateral Development Fund.

To the delight of Belgium and particularly Flemish socialists who had made it a point of honor, the text contains a reference to respect for human rights, referring to a requirement already contained in the Lome IV agreements concluded between the European Community and the ACP countries (Africa, the Caribbean, and the Pacific). The rest contains few surprises. The salary level of technical assistants, a delicate point, will be settled at meetings of the joint commission, and their housing will be taken care of by Zaire.

The newest point has to do with the Bilateral Cooperation Fund, which is to be administered jointly by both sides. Moreover, it was the condition for application of the fund and the decision-making process and guarantees that occupied the final hours, if not the final days, of negotiators. The fund, one will recall, is made up of payments Zaire will make until the year 2000 for interest on two-thirds of its commercial debt. Belgium canceled the first third. These payments will be in local currency and be used to support development projects. Geens is particularly anxious that the fund support projects directly useful to the population, such as agricultural access roads, schools, and clinics, rather than commercial activities. Whatever the case, the use of the fund is to fit into Zaire's priority investment programs, and inasmuch as decisions will be made jointly, the right of veto may be exercised by both sides. It should be noted that while Belgium is very proud of the "invention" of the fund and believes the example could inspire others among Zaire's creditors, this enthusiasm is not totally shared by the OECD [Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development] or the IMF, which fear that the issuance of large sums in local currency could revive inflation.

* Minerals Smuggling, Illegal Sales Reported

34000475B London AFRICA ANALYSIS in English
2 Feb 90 p 8

[Text] Johannesburg. A shortage of locomotives in both Zambia and Zaire may be all that has stopped, for the time being, the flow of smuggled minerals into South Africa. Millions of dollars worth of copper, cobalt and other minerals from Zaire and Zambia have already made their way through South Africa in often audacious smuggling operations.

Exact figures are impossible to come by, but police sources in the three countries concede that the business is 'huge'. At the moment, because of a shortage of locomotives, Zimbabwe has suspended shipments of all but essential goods northwards and there is considerable congestion building up in railway yards on the Zimbabwe border.

Meanwhile, in marshalling yards near here, there are 33 railway wagons under guard, at least nine of them containing some \$600,000 of copper wire bars from Gecamines in Zaire. The wagons, which were sealed and said to contain timber, were stopped and opened by South African police at the request of Zaire's industrial security police chief Mola-M'Bunza Ekekye. Mola, who made an application to the supreme court here to 'freeze' the goods in the railway wagons, maintains that they are part of a false-invoicing and duty-avoidance conspiracy involving individuals and companies in Zaire and South Africa.

This particular instance, however, appears to be an enterprise embarked on by individuals not very closely connected with the political hierarchy in Zaire. Last year it was reported (*Africa Analysis* no. 70), and subsequently confirmed when the World Bank published a report, that up to \$400m disappeared from the Gecamines account in 1988 alone. Much of this may be accounted for by smuggled shipments and illegal sales of minerals.

Ethiopia

TPLF Rebels Say Peace Talks 'Unhindered'

EA2203141090 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Ethiopia in Amharic 0400 GMT 22 Mar 90

[Excerpt] Reports reaching us indicate that the third round of peace talks between the Tigray People's Liberation Front [TPLF] and the Dergue continued yesterday. The talks, which started on the evening of 20 March have so far proceeded unhindered. This third round of talks will deal with key points which will lead to the holding of the substantive talks. If it is possible to reach agreement on the issue of the participants in the main talks and the agenda of the substantive talks in the present session, it will be possible to proceed to the substantive talks. [passage omitted]

EPRDF Six-Point Transition to Peace Program

EA2203183290 (Clandestine) Voice of the Tigray Revolution in Amharic to Ethiopia 1500 GMT 21 Mar 90

[Six-point transition to peace program of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) issued 10 March 1990]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] In March 1989, the Tigray People's Liberation Front [TPLF] presented a democratic formula by which our country's problem could be resolved. The joint meeting of the Eritrean People's Democratic Movement [EPDM] and TPLF Central Committees held in Hamle 1981 [Ethiopian calendar—8 July-6 August 1989] accepted and improved on the TPLF's peace initiative and adopted the resolutions of the EPRDF, which were very much utilized by the EPRDF. Many political forces have expressed support for these resolutions and continue to support them. But as well as publicizing and standing firm on the issue, we must translate it into reality.

As we present the democratically staged transition to peace, we should strive to bring together all those who firmly uphold peace and democracy so that by their joint efforts they will realize it. Basing itself on this principle, the EPRDF leadership has coordinated a democratically staged transition to peace, the peace for which it has been struggling, and has now adopted a transitional program.

To implement this democratic transition to peace program, the EPRDF has decided to hold talks with parties which support the program and set up a joint front to struggle to achieve this noble objective. The EPRDF is certain that genuine patriots and democratic forces will give respond to this call positively. The staged transition program:

1. If all Ethiopia's problems are to be solved peacefully and democratically with the people playing a decisive part, the current war must end and a provisional transitional government comprising all political forces must be formed.

A. In addition to struggling to topple the antipeace and antidemocracy Dergue government in power, we must also struggle to persuade the Dergue to accept the idea of a democratic transition to peace. If the Dergue accepts this idea, an end to the war could be negotiated and a provisional transitional government comprising all political forces, including the Workers' Party of Ethiopia [WPE], formed.

B. If the Dergue rejects these ideas which could resolve our country's problems peacefully and democratically, to end the war we must intensify the current struggle against the Dergue in a united front. A provisional transitional government comprising all opposition forces must then be formed.

2. Political conditions should be created which affirm the authority of the people.

A. All political forces should be allowed unconditionally to communicate their views to the people freely and democratically, to organize the people and involve the people.

B. The people's democratic rights should be implemented and confirmed unconditionally.

C. All spy networks established to suppress the democratic rights and activities of the people must be dismantled.

D. All political prisoners should be freed and refugees allowed to return to their countries without fear or concern.

E. All foreign military advisers should be expelled from Ethiopia and all foreign military bases closed down.

3. Peace and stability should be brought to the whole country.

A. For the prevalence of peace during the transitional period, all forces should sign a cease-fire agreement. They should stop acquiring arms and recruiting soldiers, and an international peace-keeping force should be invited to ensure peace and stability.

B. The transitional government should work hard to seek lasting and democratic solutions to the war in Eritrea and the other regions of Ethiopia.

C. The transitional government should express officially its readiness to resolve all problems peacefully and democratically. It should respect a referendum, in which the people will decide their fate. It should try to solve these wars through a referendum. The warring parties—whether they are in the transitional government or not—should be allowed to agree to a ceasefire, and to communicate their ideas to the people peacefully.

D. Since the country's peace and stability can only be guaranteed when world peace in general and peace in the Horn of Africa in particular have been established, we should strive for the prevalence of peace in our region and in the world at large.

4. The provisional transitional government should have clear-cut duties and a limited duration.

A. For the people to achieve power immediately, to get lasting and democratic solutions to the country's problems, and to enable all political forces to communicate

their ideas to the people appropriately, the life-span of the provisional transitional government should not be more than two years.

B. The main objectives of the transitional government should be: to ensure the democratic rights of the people; to enable all political forces to express their views freely; and, after this peaceful and democratic struggle, the people should democratically elect a constitution-drafting committee. The constitution should then be adopted in a democratic manner and free elections should be held according to the adopted constitution. The party which is victorious through this process should take power.

C. In addition, the provisional transitional government will have the following duties: to enact economic reforms agreed upon by the parties in the transitional government; to reconstruct facilities destroyed by the war; to assist war victims; and in general, to work for peace and stability.

5. All problems should be resolved peacefully and democratically through the people's consensus.

A. After a peaceful and democratic struggle between all political forces, a committee should be set up to draft a constitution democratically, with the participation of representatives of the people.

B. All political forces have the right to propose to the people any articles of the constitution they deem to be necessary. They have the right to campaign for members of the constitutional committee who support their proposals. After the election of the constitution-drafting committee they will have the right to submit their proposals to the committee. The constitution-drafting committee will write the constitution based on these proposals. And will then put the constitution to a referendum.

C. After the drafting of the constitution, elections will be held according to the constitution, and the party which gains the most votes will be given political power by the transitional government.

D. Government institutions and an army which will solve the problems of Ethiopia democratically should be established.

E. To ensure that elections are sincerely and democratically conducted, the transitional government should invite international monitors to supervise the elections.

6. The transitional government should work hard to ensure broad acceptance of the preceding peaceful democratic solutions. It should base these solutions on the people's authority. It should conduct among the people and all political forces constructive and democratic discussions, with those who are ready to negotiate these points. It should work hard to achieve broad cooperation, to enable those who accept these points to work together.

Ethiopian Airlines Begins Flights to Namibia

EA2203122990 Addis Ababa Domestic Service
in Amharic 0400 GMT 21 Mar 90

[Text] Ethiopian Airlines yesterday began flights to Windhoek, Namibia. This is the airlines' 30th route in Africa and 48th worldwide. According to the ETHIOPIAN NEWS AGENCY, the aircraft carried passengers from various countries who were going to Namibia to attend its independence day. The opening of this route on the eve of Namibia's independence makes it a special one. The twice-weekly flights will stop en route in the Malawian capital, Lilongwe.

*** TPLF Defector Holds News Conference**

34000466A Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD
in English 6-8 Feb 90

[Article: "Former Member Exposes Bankruptcy of Woyane Group"]

[6 Feb 90 pp 1, 2]

[Text] The narrow nationalism of the Woyane [Tigre People's Liberation Front, TPLF] group has continued to lose ground and even its members have gradually come to reject and expose the anti-people and anti-unity group. This is evident from the statements of former members of the group who, convinced of the anti-people and anti-unity stance of the Woyane group, give themselves up to the Revolutionary Army.

Recently, a former member of the Woyane bandit group, who had been with the group for the last 12 years and had attained high status of military leadership in the bandit group, has given himself up to the Revolutionary Army. Following is the interview Abdulkadir Mohammed Yassin gave to journalists.

Abdulkadir first went into giving a brief note in connection with his personal life history as a background for the interview. He was born in Mekele, the capital of Tigray Autonomous Region, in 1952 E.C.) [Ethiopian Calendar (add 8 years)] [1960]. He went to school at the age of seven and completed grade eight in 1966 (E.C.) [1974]. After he quit school and read the Quoran for four years, he joined the bandit group in 1970 (E.C.) [1978].

Abdulkadir revealed that as the structure of the bandit group was widely spread in the town at the time, he was recruited into the group by a certain Taffere Gebre-Medain, an Eritrean-born member of the Shabia [Eritrean People's Liberation Front, EPLF] group. He said that he used to secretly receive various agitational papers and songs, which he described were prepared in such a way that they seem to rouse national feeling and were likely to mislead even grown-up mature people, let alone the youth.

The papers were such that they highlighted non-existing subjugation of the inhabitants of Tigray. Abdulkadir noted that according to the papers, the inhabitants of

Tigray were exposed to ignorance, disease, cultural domination and several other social problems.

He went on to elaborate that the papers carried such false accusations that the natives of Shoa want the history of Tigray to be dominated by the history of the Amhara nationality and that the boundary of Tigray that existed during Emperor Yohannes had been violated. The papers argued that the lost territories of Tigray had to be regained, and the agitation to this end was to "disengage Tigray from Amhara rule" and thereby establish a republic of Tigray.

Abdulkadir, who was moved by such false propaganda, went to Tembien at the age of 18, met four youth from Eritrea and nine others from Tigray and registered as a member of the Woyane group. After undergoing two weeks of military training, he was assigned to join a certain unit of the Woyane force. Abdulkadir further recounted the various units he worked with and the promotions he got during his stay in the ranks of the bandit group.

The former member of the Woyane group said that when he was transferred to work at a training centre in 1975 (E.C.) [1983], he requested his superiors to let him continue working in the combat units, but the response he got was three months' imprisonment. Abdulkadir was later returned to the combat division but had to stay unarmed for a whole year after which he continued active military service, and subsequently became member of the so-called Marxist-Leninist League of Tigray in 1979 (E.C.) [1987].

Working as a member of the so-called Marxist-Leninist League of Tigray, Abdulkadir had participated in all the operations carried out in Tigray since the year 1980 (E.C.) [1988] and was further promoted to his latest rank during his stay in the group. Abdulkadir stated that he was nominated by his unit to attend the congress of the League that was held in 1981 (E.C.) [1989]. On his return from the congress, Abdulkadir was assigned to work as a trainer in a newly established military training centre, and was in charge of a section within the "Yekatit Division".

Abdulkadir said that when the need was felt to move into neighbouring Wollo region, he was transferred into a section in what is known as "Maibel" division and revealed that he had fought in the wars fought on the Kobbo, Woldiya and Nefas-Mewcha (in North Gondar) fronts in accordance with the orders he was given. He further stated that he later moved to Debre-Tabor, South Gondar, and returned to Nefas-Mewcha along with his section, where he decided to abandon the life of banditry and gave himself up to the Revolutionary Army.

[7 Feb 90 pp 1, 6]

[Text] In yesterday's issue, we presented the first part of the interview given to journalists by Abdulkadir Mohammed Yassin who willingly gave himself up recently to the Revolutionary Army after serving in the

Woyane [Tigre People's Liberation Front, TPLF] bandit group for the last 12 years. In this issue, we will present the second part of the interview.

It had made clear in the previous issue that Abdulkadir went into banditry in 1970 (E.C.) [Ethiopian Calendar (add 8 years)] [1978] instigated by the false propaganda of the Woyane group to establish the republic of Tigray. But on arrival at the training centre, he was told to train along with Eritrean-born youth. He was asked whether he had raised the question why those Eritrean-born youth should receive training along with natives of Tigray.

Abdulkadir said that he was at the time not aware of the fact that the Woyane group was supporting the secession of Eritrea. He only knew that there was often exchange of forces between the Shabia [Eritrean People's Liberation Front, EPLF] and Woyane groups. Since the Woyane force was weaker at the time, Shabia forces were operating in Tigray region. If Woyane forces felt like joining the Shabia force, they were at liberty to do so. Abdulkadir further said that as the Woyane and Shabia were one and the same, there was no need to raise the question why the two forces should train together.

Abdulkadir was asked to give an account of the historical development of the Woyane group. Abdulkadir said, "the present Woyane first came into existence at the Addis Ababa university as an association of students with Tigray origin. The leaders were Gidey Zero-Tsion, Melles Zenawi, Aregawi Berhe and Sibhat Negga. In 1966 (E.C.) [1974] the association turned into a marxist-oriented group and was the "association of Progressives of Tigray". [passages omitted]

The former Woyane member revealed that in 1967 (E.C.) [1975] one group from the so-called union was sent to the Shabia group and another one to Shire province in Tigray, where there was the disgruntled feudal Gessesew Ayele, to undergo military training and acquire arms. The group of ten who went to Shabia, were instructed to go back to Tigray after instructions from the secessionist Shabia group. This scheme, Abdulkadir noted, was masterminded by Gidey Zero-Tsion, who was Eritrean-born.

Then, said Abdulkadir, the groundwork was laid and malicious propaganda was carried out to win the peasants of Tigray. Peasants were told that they were subjected to various forms of Amhara subjugation. On the other hand, Giday Zero-Tsion and his accomplices intensified the sinister machination to expand the structural set-up of the Woyane in Addis Ababa, Asmara and other towns of Tigray.

Abdulkadir said that the group assumed another new name in 1969 (E.C.) [1977], at which time the Woyane leadership was infested with narrow sentiments on provincial basis. The ensuing rift ended up with the exile of some of the liquidation of others. In 1970 (E.C.) [1978] it became clear that the urban structure of the Woyane was weakened and there was need for a campaign to

"agitate and organize" the peasantry. Subsequently, said Abdulkadir, the group acquired its present name at a congress held in February 1971 (E.C.) [1979] and surfaced with what it calls its emblem.

The former Woyane member said that in 1972 (E.C.) [1980] the group began to show of strengthening. It sent its forces to the Shabia group for training. To prove its allegiance to the separatist Shabia group which is its maher, the Woyane had taken part in the battle which took place in 1973 (E.C.) [1981] to rout the Jebha, another separatist group, from Eritrea. Abdulkadir stated that it was decided at the congress of the so-called Marxist-Leninist League Tigray held in 1977 (E.C.) [1985] to clear various towns of Tigray of government force and thereby leave the burden of the war on the shoulders of the people.

"As regards the provisions required for the fighting forces" said Abdulkadir the Woyane group uses a very subtle means of diverting relief assistance secured from international Red Cross associations. Arms, such as artillery, hand grenades first arrive at the ports of Sudan from some eastern countries and are later transported into Tigray with utmost caution. When Woyane forces ask where the arms came from, they were told that the arms were bought through the contributions made by natives of Tigray residing both in the hinterland and abroad, with a view to enhancing the liberation from the Amhara Government.

[8 Feb 90 pp 1, 2, 3, 4]

[Text] In the two previous issues we have presented the interview given to journalists by Abdulkadir Mohammed Yassin, former member of the Woyane [Tigre People's Liberation Front, TPLF] bandit-group, who recently gave himself up to the Revolutionary Army. Abdulkadir, instigated by the false propaganda of the Woyane group, joined banditry in 1970 (E.C.) [Ethiopian Calendar (add 8 years)] [1978] until he willingly gave himself up having fully recognized the bankruptcy of the bandit group. This is the third and last part of his interview.

During the interview he gave to journalists, Abdulkadir revealed, among other things, the unholy alliance between the secessionist Shabia [Eritrean People's Liberation Front, EPLF] and its mercenary the Woyane group in the areas of activities as regards military training and war front operations. The Woyane group is created and nurtured by Shabia. Testimony to this fact, Abdulkadir said, is when the training programme in 1972 E.C. [1980] was endangered due to circumstances in Tigray, and the project was moved into Eritrea. The training continued in Eritrea until 1974 (E.C.) [1982] and there was mutual support of forces during the various battles fought in both regions. This has still continued in a much more consolidated manner. With particular reference to the conspiracy to obstruct the Red Star Campaign, Abdulkadir recounted that the Woyane group had sent two of its brigades to Eritrea, where most

of its forces were liquidated and about three more brigades from the Woyane training centre in Eritrea had provided support for the same evil purpose until 1975 (E.C.) [1983].

Generally speaking, Abdulkadir noted that the Shabia-Woyane joint operations in Eritrea and Tigray have still continued and a new agreement has been made between the two groups. Citing details of such an unholy alliance, Abdulkadir revealed that when the Woyane group launched its latest acts of brigardage infiltrating into neighbouring administrative regions, it was intended to force the Government to move its forces in Eritrea into Gondar and Wollo administrative regions. By so doing, the strategic objective was to facilitate the secession of Eritrea.

Abdulkadir underlined that it has been indicated in the so-called programme of the Woyane group that the group will struggle for the establishment of the democratic government of Tigray and supports the secession of Eritrea from Ethiopia. Accordingly, said Abdulkadir, the current war in Gondar and Wollo administrative regions is to realize these objectives.

In this connection, Abdulkadir stated that at present, Shabia has stationed its forces in Adigrat and Adwa. This, he said, is in an effort to hinder the mobility of Government forces and on the other hand, to facilitate the advance of the Woyane group. It has been made clear that as the defeat of the Woyane both in Tigray and in the hinterland means an obstacle to the secessionist scheme of the Shabia, the secessionist group does not like the weakening of the Woyane.

Abdulkadir noted that the Shabia group, while arguing for the secession of Eritrea, refers to a false history that "in 1887 (E.C.) [1895] Eritrea had its own government under its own flag." In a similar manner, the Woyane group and its satellite bandit group have embarked on a new thesis, which claims that all nationalities and ethnic groups in the country should establish their own governments. Thus, they are struggling to violate the very existence of a country called Ethiopia, Abdulkadir stated.

Abdulkadir was asked whether the satellite group that has formed on alliance with the Woyane was an independent group. He said that the so-called Ethiopian People's Democratic Movement (EPDM) is nothing but a remnant of the EPRP [Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party] group and was christened by the Woyane itself. Besides, the EPDM has neither training centre nor any permanent belonging of its own. It does not have an independent programme and its only difference from the Woyane group is that it has put down what it calls its programme in Amharic.

Woyane and EPDM, the two groups which are bent on disintegrating the country, both advocate that Eritrea should secede from the rest of Ethiopia. The only difference between the two groups, Abdulkadir said, is that the EPDM has nothing of its own and it is totally dependent on the Woyane group.

Speaking about the propaganda scheme employed by the Woyane group in its effort to instigate the inhabitants of Tigray to join its forces, Abdulkadir said that the Woyane tells the people that the problem they are facing is due to the existing government and that the people have advanced to the scab of the government and fight it. The response of the people is however, that their children should go to their farms rather than to the battle fields.

In this connection, Abdulkadir recalled an incident whereby during a high-level Woyane military meeting held in 1981 (E.C.) [1989] under the chairmanship of Melles Zenawi, a question was raised to the effect that many children of the people have lost their loves in the wars to fulfil desire of the Woyane to establish the government of Tigray, and that as the scheme has not proved successful, what would quell the wrath of the people? This question, which was not answered at the time, is still there, and many young people escape from Woyane training centres and either go into exile in neighbouring countries or are still in prison in various towns of Tigray.

Today, as the inhabitants of Tigray are highly embittered by the hardships they are facing due to Woyane banditry, they are prepared to struggle in an anti-Woyane stance, Abdulkadir said. This is a favourable condition to intensify the anti-Woyane struggle through the assistance of a body that would organize the scattered youth and those in prison, Abdulkadir concluded.

* Governmental, Military Appointments Announced

34000479A Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD
in English 27 Feb 90 p 1

[Text] (ENA)—Comrade Mengistu Haile-Mariam, General Secretary of the CC [Central Committee] of the WPE [Workers Party of Ethiopia], President of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (PDRE) and Commander-in-Chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, yesterday made the following appointments:

1. Comrade Feleke Gedle-Giorgis, member of the CC of the WPE, Ambassador designate.
2. Comrade Tadesse Gebre-Kidan, member of the CC of the WPE, Ambassador designate.
3. Comrade Getachew Habte-Selassie, Minister of Foreign Trade.
4. Comrade Aragaw Tiruneh, Commissioner of the National Water Resources Development.
5. Comrade Fisseha (Yimer), Vice Minister in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
6. Comrade Berhanu Ejjigu, Vice Minister in the Ministry of Industry.

7. Comrade Israel Kidane-Mariam, Deputy Head of the Office of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations with the rank of Vice Minister.

8. Comrade Negussie Abera, Vice Commissioner in the Defence Industry Commission.

9. Comrade Brig. General Gugsu Beyene, Vice Commissioner in the Defence Industry Commission.

10. Comrade Major Gen. Getachew Gedamu, Commander of the First Revolutionary Army.

11. Comrade Assefa Wolde, Ambassador designate.

12. Comrade Tefera Shawil, Ambassador designate.

13. Comrade Konjit Sine-Giorgis, Ambassador designate.

* Commando Brigade, 2 Army Divisions Honored

34000463A Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD
in English 22 Feb 90 pp 1, 3

[Article: "Council of State Awards Galantry Medals to Two Army Divisions, a Commando Brigade"]

[Text] (ENA)—The Council of State of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (PDRE) yesterday passed a decision on awarding galantry medals to two army divisions and a commando brigade credited with distinguished feats of bravery in the defence of the nation's unity and security.

At its 17th regular meeting chaired by Comrade Mengistu Haile-Mariam, General Secretary of the CC [Central Committee] of the WPE [Workers Party of Ethiopia], President of the PDRE and Commander-in-Chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, the Council of State decided on conferring medals of distinguished feats of bravery second rank of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia on:

1. "Nebro" 15th Infantry Division
2. "Gissela" 23rd Infantry Division
3. "The 1.81 "Satenaw" 2nd.

Special Commando Brigade "Nebro" 11th Infantry Division was formed in March 1978 when the separatist bandits were engaged in spreading terror among the peaceful civilian population as part of their strategy to dismember Eritrea from the rest of the country.

The division launched its operation by defending Massawa against enemy forces that had been attempting to occupy the port city and ultimately repulsing them after seven months of heroic struggle. The division continued to expand its theatre of operation by bringing under firm control strategic points along the Asmara-Massawa road and clearing the coastal areas of enemy units.

This gallant division performed heroic feats on the Algana Karora, Melebsu, Akordat and other fronts and

contributed to the defeat of the enemy in 1989 when the latter was attempting to capture the town of Keren.

The "Gissela" 23rd Infantry Division has been successfully repulsing secessionist forces in all areas of operation where it was deployed over since it was formed in 1982. The division scored a particularly heroic feat when it stormed and destroyed enemy entrenchments in the northernmost tip of Eritrea.

"Gissela" 23rd Infantry Division has been making every sacrifice demanded of it in defending the nation's unity and territorial integrity through courageously foiling the destructive mission of the separatist group in awrajas which it had infiltrated. It also contributed to local peace and security by training People's Militia in areas where it has been serving.

When the separatist bandit group opened an offensive on the Keren front to support its onslaught on the Asmara-Massawa route beginning on February 8, the division effectively foiled the attempt made by the enemy.

Made up entirely of young combatants, the 1.81 "Satenaw" second Special Commando Brigade was first deployed on the North Wollo front at a time when the Third Revolutionary Army was engaged in fierce fighting against the "Woyane" group. The brigade soon thwarted the enemy's offensive on the "Woldyia" theatre of operation.

The "Satenaw" Second Special Commando Brigade fought alongside other forces by repulsing enemy offensive in the Kuta Ber area last October. The brigade performed similar feats when the enemy extended its area of operation to northern Shoa. In short, the "Satenaw" Second Special Commando Brigade has discharged its task courageously throughout the short period of its existence.

*** National Revolutionary Campaign Center Statement**

34000463B Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN FIRST
in English 10 Feb 90 pp 1, 4

[Article: "Warmongering Stance Laid Bare"; (Statement Issued by the National Revolutionary Campaign Centre)]

[Text] Ceaseless efforts have been made for numerous years to resolve peacefully the problem in the northern part of our country and to seek peace through peaceful means. But this did not yield the expected outcome. We were obliged to surmount arduous obstacles in order to extricate the people from the life of hardship and misery they had been subjected to. And it had always been imperative to face the problems with patience for the sake of peace. Safeguarding the country's unity and security had demanded the deployment of vast resources and manpower that could have been utilized for the enhancement of development endeavours. No effort was spared to solve the problem peacefully through dialogue

with the opposition groups so that development endeavors could be enhanced and more particularly, conducive situations could be created for the people in the region to lead a peaceful life. However, those parties determined to disrupt the unity of the country never refrained and wavered from their adventurist and warmongering stand by ascribing wrong meaning to the desire for peace and patience of the people and the government.

In accordance with the New Peace Initiative of the National Shengo of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, peace process has begun with the so-called EPLF [Eritrean People's Liberation Front] separatist group. The Government genuinely approached the opposition in a spirit of reconciliation for resolving the problem peacefully and with a spirit reflecting the fervent desire of the people for peace. Yet, what has become amply clear from the discerned tendencies manifested so far, the group does not in all honesty accept dialogue as a forum for seeking peace.

Rather, the group had preferred to use the opportunity created by the talks for disseminating malicious propaganda and its objectives that are neither historically backed nor popularly supported. The so-called EPLF driven by its characteristic warmongering stand, had made repeated attempts to thwart the launching of the peace talks, and to walk out, once the talks started, under various flimsy pretexts.

Undaunted by the obstructionist tendencies of the group so that the good beginning made would attain its objective unhindered, two rounds of preliminary talks were held so far and agreements reached thanks to the immense patience of the government delegations and the pressure exerted by the mediators, and hosts. However, it had not been possible to fix a date to commence the substantive peace talks. This was because the secessionist group was not ready to go into the main talks immediately. On the other hand, the so-called EPLF, while posing in public as peace-seeker, had organised armed, deployed and fought alongside the "Woyane" group, thus expanding the war and opening demonstrating through such activities of its anti-peace stand.

However, the designs of the separatist group for the secession of Eritrea under the lull and confused situation created while giving lip-service to its desire for peace, failed when the proxy-war the "Woyane" was waging in different parts of the country was thwarted by its heroic Revolutionary Army and People's Militia with the untainted support of the entire Ethiopian people who were angered by the expanded unleashed by the secessionists.

It has presently become very clear that the yearning of the secessionists to delay the substantive peace talks is to buy time to convening to prepare themselves for a fresh war. At the end of the second round of preliminary peace talks in Nairobi, in November last year, the delegation leader of the secessionist group refused to agree on fixing a date for the substantive peace talks for the bare reason

that it could only be decided by the meeting of the organization's leadership. But the decision made after its recent meeting was to declare war as was practically demonstrated.

This pretence of seeking peace is merely a play to buy time to prepare for a new war. Once again as in previous occasions, the group has amply shown its choice of pursuing war to seeking peaceful solution.

To accomplish its objective of serving those who do not wish to see the unity and territorial integrity of the country by dismembering Eritrea from the motherland, the secessionist group launched a fresh offensive in Eritrea Autonomous Region at dawn on February 8, 1990. The so-called EPLF embarked on its destructive mission by deploying numerous infantry mechanized fighting units on the Asmara-Massawa road, at Adishoma, at Areza in the western part and at Mirara in the northern part. Members of the Revolutionary Army and the People's Militia are heroically withstanding this war, for which the group had been preparing itself under cover since the launching of the peace process talks, that laid bare to the warmongering stand of the group. Peace that has prevailed in the region is now disrupted this brazen act has dashed the hope of seeking peace through peaceful means for which a start had been made.

Apart from causing loss of life and damage to property as in previous occasions, the latest war unleashed by the secessionist group hinders the efforts that the government is making in cooperation with local and foreign welfare organizations to save the lives of millions of people affected by drought in the area. The secessionist group is committing inhuman acts by deploying the entire destructive force at its command with the seizure of the port of Massawa as its main target. Its attempt to capture the port, gate way for goods and services essential for development purposes as well as for the daily need for the people is tantamount to strangulating the people. The war that has been started at this and other fronts amply demonstrate the danger posed to the region in particular and to the unity and territorial integrity of the country as a whole.

The secessionist group, which has been trying to make use of the banner of peace to cover its bellicose stance and the peace forum for echoing its narrow objective, has once again revealed its true colour. Once again, the secessionist group has bitten the hand of the Ethiopian people extended for peace.

The struggle to safeguard the nation's unity and territorial integrity and maintain peace and security in the area will continue. And the secessionists and all those anti-Ethiopian forces conniving with them will be held fully responsible for the consequences in the process. The secessionists are posing a threat to the unity of the country besides causing huge damage to life and property as well as hunger, untold suffering and mass displacement of the people along with the considerable support given to them by anti-Ethiopia quarters. The world

community must remind these anti-Ethiopia quarters to refrain from meddling in Ethiopia's internal affairs.

If the secessionists opt for war instead of peace, the Ethiopian people will have no alternative other than hitting back the attacks of the enemy so as to ensure defence of the nation's freedom, unity and sovereign integrity. The inhabitants of Eritrea Autonomous Region, who are the prime target of the secessionist instigated acts of destruction, in particular are obliged to mobilize their resources and energy and fight against the separatists.

The Ethiopian people have vividly demonstrated their firm commitment to peace. Undaunted by the bellicose stance of the secessionist group and those conniving with the enemy, the Ethiopian people will continue to extend the hand of peace. At the same time, the Ethiopian people will resolutely deal with the messengers of destruction and thereby safeguard the nation's freedom and unity.

*** Israel Said Supplying Weapons, Aid to Mengistu**

34000477A London ADULIS in English
Feb 90 p 2

[Excerpts] There is mounting evidence of Israeli military involvement in Ethiopia. According to diplomatic and intelligence sources, Tel Aviv is supplying the embattled Mengistu regime with military instructors, training and assorted weapons including banned anti-personnel bombs.

The burgeoning military ties between Ethiopia and Israel are multifaceted and murky. Reliable internal reports indicate that two El-Al airlines have been making several secret night flights to Addis Ababa each week ferrying weapons. (Ethiopia and Israel have not yet re-established commercial flights.) Israeli ships have further unloaded tanks and artillery weapons in the Eritrean port of Massawa and in Eritrean island in the Dahlak archipelago where they have reportedly been granted naval facilities and rights of anchorage. Ethiopia has now purchased 15 Kfir fighter planes. Three hundred Israeli military experts have also been recently transferred from Addis Ababa to Eritrea. [passage omitted]

The growing Israeli involvement in Ethiopia, often explained by the desire of the former to secure the emigration of the Falashas, does not seem to be confined to military aspects only. A team of Israeli engineers have started making preliminary surveys on building three dams in Gojjam to divert the Blue Nile, resuscitating an old scheme that was apparently shelved because of its adverse implications for the neighbouring Nile countries. The current developments have aroused extreme apprehension in the Sudan and Egypt. The provision of cluster bombs to Ethiopia has also irritated the U.S. administration since Israel is not permitted to export to other countries weapons developed with U.S. technology that remain subject to U.S. export restrictions.

*** Ministry Releases Foreign Trade Projection**

34000457A Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD
in English 2 Feb 90 p 1

[Text] (ENA)—The Minister of Foreign Trade said here yesterday that Ethiopia expects 867,000,000 birr from foreign trade during the 1982 E.C. [Ethiopian Calendar] budget year [1990].

Comrade Tadesse Gebre-Kidan, member of the CC [Central Committee] of the WPE [Workers Party of Ethiopia] and Minister of Foreign Trade, said during the 13th General Assembly of the Addis Ababa Chamber of Commerce held at Hilton Hotel that more effort should be made towards raising production in diverse other sectors to make up for the loss to be incurred as results of the deteriorating price of coffee on the world market.

He pointed out in this connection that such effort is planned in exporting processed hides and skins which account for the country's second biggest source of foreign exchange earnings after coffee.

The Minister stated that the government has allocated 2,872.6 million birr for the implementation of development projects during the current Ethiopian budget year. He also said the private sector is expected to contribute no less than 65 percent towards the national economy.

Comrade Tadesse reported that during 1981 E.C. [1989] 895,000,000 birr was earned in foreign exchange from the export of various goods, representing 93.5 percent of the planned target. He also reiterated the need for continued rear support by the Chamber of Commerce to the Revolutionary Army presently engaged in crushing the anti-people and anti-unity forces in the north.

In his report, Comrade Geta-Mesay Degefu, Deputy Chairman of the Addis Ababa Chamber of Commerce, said that the latter has made every effort to strengthen trade activities by seeking solutions to different trade barriers by popularizing government trade policies, rules and guidelines and by organizing different seminars and other forums which would promote trade on both local and foreign scenes.

The Addis Ababa Chamber of Commerce has also contributed towards improving production and carrying out researches in various commodities which have not yet received proper attention but which if produced, could highly contribute to strengthening the foreign economic sector.

In 1981 E.C. [1989] the chamber participated in several local and international trade fairs and extended guidance to those seeking to establish or expand trade enterprises. According to the report of the deputy chairman of the chamber, it has also taken different measures which would strengthen local and foreign trade relations.

Yesterday's meeting worked out a programme of action for the next six months and elected new vice president and six board members of the chamber.

*** Italy Asked To Expedite Power Generators**

34000457B Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD
in English 3 Feb 90 pp 1, 3

[Text] Asmara (ENA)—A 50-million-birr aid agreement providing for power generators to strengthen electric power supplies for the towns of Asmara and Massawa was signed here Thursday between the Ethiopian Electric Light and Power Authority (EELPA) and the Government of Italy.

Under the agreement two 8,000 kw diesel generators are to be installed in Asmara and one 6,000 kw diesel generator in Massawa.

The agreement was signed by Comrade Tamene Wolde-Yohanis, Acting Manager of EELPA, and Ambassador Sergio Angeletti of Italy to Ethiopia.

Ambassador Angeletti said on the occasion that strengthening electric supplies for Asmara and Massawa is one of the various development projects to be carried out in Ethiopia by the Italian Government, and added that all the necessary work is to be done for the installation of the power generators.

Comrade Tamene on his part noted that Ethiopia had in the past received similar assistance and support from the government of Italy. He said the government will exert greater efforts to expedite the installation of the power generators to Asmara and the port of Massawa.

Kenya

President Moi Returns From Namibia, Speaks

EA2303110290 Nairobi Domestic Service English
in 1600 GMT 22 Mar 90

[Excerpts] His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi today reminded Kenyans that it was the duty of all to protect our uhuru [independence] to ensure fast development and a bright future. President Moi was speaking at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport on arrival from Windhoek, Namibia, where he joined other world leaders to attend Namibia's independence celebrations yesterday.

The president said that while in Namibia he met the Kenya soldiers serving there under the UNTAG [UN Transition Assistance Group]. The president conveyed to Kenyans greetings from our soldiers and said they were fine and had won the admiration of Namibians and other people they worked with during preparations for the country's independence. He said that the Kenyan soldiers had demonstrated a high sense of discipline and devotion to duty which had made a lasting impression on the Namibians. Noting that the Kenyans had contributed handsomely to the independence of Namibia, President Moi observed that he had also signed an agreement with President Sam Nujoma of Namibia to keep the Kenyan troops in the country for a further three months. He said that the soldiers would guard the frontiers of the

newly independent country and also ensure law and order as Namibia settled down to create an organized Army.

President Moi said that relations between Kenya and the young nation of Namibia were very good, adding that he had urged President Sam Nujoma to rule wisely and to bridge the relations between the diverse groups in the country. President Moi said that Namibia would grapple with problems inherited from racist South African misrule, especially in the field of education. However, he expressed confidence that President Nujoma would handle those problems well. Noting that the Namibians were not given a chance for education, President Moi said the country needed a lot of help in the form of trained personnel and teaching staff.

Before leaving Namibia for home, President Moi this morning officially opened the Kenya High Commission Offices in Windhoek. The offices, which have been serving as a liaison office, started operating as a high commission today. [passage omitted]

Earlier, at his residence in Windhoek, President Moi held discussions with the West German foreign minister, Hans-Dietrich Genscher. Mr. Genscher brought President Moi a message of goodwill from the West German chancellor, Dr. Helmut Kohl. The two discussed matters related to peace and security in the world, and particularly Africa. President Moi briefed the West German minister on the central African region.

President Moi also held discussions with President 'Umar al-Bashir of the Sudan. Gen. al-Bashir had paid a courtesy call on President Moi at his residence in Windhoek. President al-Bashir briefed President Moi on the current situation in the Sudan. The Kenyan leader once again stressed the need for a peaceful solution to the problems in the Sudan.

The president also received and held discussions with the Polisario leader, Mohamed Abdelaziz. [passage omitted]

Uganda

President Returns, Comments on Southern Africa

EA2203212590 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 22 Mar 90

[Excerpts] President Yoweri Museveni has returned home from Namibia where he has been attending celebrations marking the country's independence after 75 years of South African rule. [passage omitted]

On arrival at Entebbe, the president addressed a press conference where he talked about developments in Namibia and in South Africa in general. He also touched on a number of domestic issues. He said that Namibia's independence is a great lesson to the South African racists to break out of their isolation and join the international community, emphasizing that this isolation has been and is to the disadvantage of the racists although some of them may not have realized this. He said that the independence of Namibia has come about as a result of lessons dealt to the South African regime by the armed struggle and he was sure that it is going to have reverberations in other spheres. He added that the armed struggle, together with other pressures on the South African regime, such as trade sanctions, will certainly bring about changes in South Africa. He noted, however, that the current group of leaders in South Africa, like President de Klerk, who are trying to institute some reforms are better than their predecessors and Africa can now show some accommodation to them in some minor things, but not on major issues such as sanctions. In this connection, the president said that it might be possible to simply suspend the armed struggle but definitely not to renounce it. He added that the mood in the international community is now to solve problems and to establish peace.

Asked to comment on the situation in Kumi and Soroti Districts where he had been for two weeks before going to Namibia, President Museveni explained that he had gone there to help the people in the area to analyze the situation and find solutions. The main problem, he said, had been lack of coordination between the various branches responsible for ensuring that rebel activities in the area ceased. He cautioned the press about writing misinformed and wild reports about the situation in Kumi and Soroti Districts, saying that they must do proper analyses of what has been happening and the measures taken by the government to re-establish peace and order and to protect citizens.

President Museveni informed the pressmen that the government's intention in setting up camps has been to provide security to the people from rebel thuggery and also to provide them with essential services which have been lacking in the villages as a result of rebel activities. He assured them that the situation in the two districts is now under control and will improve significantly as a result of measures taken and the participation of citizens in ensuring peace.

The president was seen off at Windhoek International Airport this morning by President Sam Nujoma of Namibia. Before departure, the two presidents held bilateral talks at the airport. President Museveni congratulated Mr Nujoma and SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] upon having successfully completed the armed struggle without which the people

of Namibia would have taken longer to attain independence. He looked forward to closer cooperation between the two countries, governments, and peoples now that the people of Namibia are free, especially in the field of trade with Uganda exporting maize and other agricultural products to Namibia. The meeting was attended by the second deputy prime minister, Mr. Kawanga Ssemogerere.

President Museveni also met the current chairman of the OAU, President Husni Mubarak of Egypt. They discussed matters of mutual interest to Uganda and Egypt.

The president also met the Sudanese leader, General 'Umar al-Bashir, with whom he discussed matters of bilateral cooperation and other issues of common interest.

Baker Arrives at Sisulu's Soweto Home 23 Mar*MB2303092590 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0839 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Johannesburg March 23 SAPA—U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and his entourage arrived at the Soweto home of internal ANC [African National Congress] leader Walter Sisulu for a meeting at mid-morning on Friday [23 March].

The Sisulu's Orlando-West home was cordoned off for more than a block and only diplomats and accredited media members had access to the outside of the walled home from which a green, black and gold ANC flag flew.

Apart from the barricades on the roads, there was a heavy security presence of both plainclothes SA [South African] and U.S. secret service members.

The South Africans, despite wearing almost identical dark striped suits, were easily distinguished from their American counterparts who, in addition to the business-like uniforms, wore yellow lapel badges and had flesh-coloured earpieces attached to walkie-talkies in their pockets.

When Mr. Baker arrived, a new "security force" presented itself on the scene in the form of an informal guard of honour surrounding Mr. Sisulu, his wife Albertina, and UDF [United Democratic Front] publicity secretary and ANC member Murphy Morobe.

Mr. Baker was accompanied by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Herman Cohen, U.S. former Ambassador to South Africa Edwin Perkins, and the current ambassador, William Swing.

Shortly after they emerged from a well-escorted luxury German motor car, the party was met at the gate by the Sisulu's and hands were shaken before the party was escorted into the house by ANC cadres.

Sisulu 'Grateful' for U.S. Support*MB2303105490 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1037 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[By Lew Elias]

[Text] Soweto March 23 SAPA—The United States would hopefully be provided opportunities for South Africa in the near future, U.S. Secretaries of State James Baker said on Friday [23 March] after an hour-long meeting with internal ANC [African National Congress] leaders.

Mr. Baker, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Herman Cohen, the former and present U.S. Ambassador Edwin Perkins and William Swing, met internal ANC head Walter Sisulu, his wife Albertina, and son, Zwelakhe, and Murphy Morobe for just over an hour at the Sisulu home in Orlando West.

After the meeting, both delegations went across the road to the Holy Cross Creche where children had been hanging on playground equipment and chanting ANC slogans and

shouting Amandla (power) and replying awethu (to the people) for the large media contingent roped off in front of the pre-school prior to Mr. Baker's arrival.

Following a look at the classrooms, the party watched the children jumping on a trampoline before giving a brief interview to the large, mainly international, press contingent.

Mr. Baker said the talks with the ANC were satisfying, adding the group talked about "what hopefully (will) be opportunities for South Africa".

Mr. Baker said he was glad to meet Mrs. Sisulu again, whom he had met while she was in the United States earlier this year.

Mr. Sisulu said he was grateful to the U.S. for the support given to his organisation over the years and he hoped this would continue.

The discussions between Mr. Baker and South African President F.W. de Klerk and ANC Deputy President Nelson Mandela, while attending the Namibian independence celebrations in Windhoek earlier this week, were mentioned during Friday's meeting.

No details of either discussions were released apart from Mr. Sisulu saying the talks between the U.S. senior diplomat and Mr. Mandela were "good".

At Friday's meeting, the lack of facilities for proper education, the shortage of adequate housing and the friction and violence among the black community were discussed, Mr. Sisulu said.

He added Mr. de Klerk was making an effort to create a climate conducive to negotiations for a settlement of the South African problem and said some of the state president's moves had been made "speedily," but much of the apartheid structure was still in place.

Mr. Sisulu said he agreed to the meeting with Mr. Baker, although the ANC did not encourage high-profile visits from foreign government representatives and would still like South Africa to be diplomatically isolated until apartheid had been totally removed.

There was no mention at Friday's meeting of a possible visit to Washington by either Mr. Mandela or Mr. de Klerk to speak to U.S. President George Bush.

Mr. Baker said the poverty in Soweto was "quite disturbing" and it was essential for the apartheid system to "be abolished as soon as possible".

Mr. Baker and his large party, supplemented by security officials from both South Africa and the U.S. continued their tour of Soweto where they were due to spend the whole morning.

ANC's Mandela 'Offers' Talks With Britain

LD2203151890 London PRESS ASSOCIATION
in English 1345 GMT 22 Mar 90

[By James Hardy, PRESS ASSOCIATION lobby correspondent]

[Text] Mr Nelson Mandela has offered to hold top-level talks with Britain, the Foreign Office disclosed today.

Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd briefly met the deputy president of the African National Congress [ANC] during a banquet in Windhoek last night to celebrate Namibian independence.

Mr Mandela's offer is his first formal acknowledgement of an open invitation to talks offered by Mrs Thatcher on this release from a 27-year jail term earlier this year.

No mention was made of a possible meeting with the prime minister during the "short but friendly" exchange, the Foreign Office said.

The two men, who are not expected to meet during the celebrations, agreed to meet on a "future occasion".

The foreign office said Mr Mandela initially offered to hold talks today, but Mr Hurd was already committed to flying back to Britain.

Although no firm arrangements were made, Mr Mandela may take the opportunity to meet Mr Hurd when he visits London at easter for a pop concert to mark his release from detention.

The ANC is known to disagree strongly with Britain's "co-operation, not isolation" approach to sanctions against South Africa, although Mr Mandela has so far steered clear of the argument.

Some observers were interpreting the lack of formal talks between Mr Mandela and Mr Hurd as a snub by the ANC after high-profile meetings between the black leader and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

Police Commissioner Fires Lt Rockman 22 Mar

MB2203182090 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1817 GMT 22 Mar 90

[Text] Cape Town March 22 SAPA—Rebel Policeman Lt Gregory Rockman was fired by the commissioner of police, Gen Johan van der Merwe, on Thursday [22 March] afternoon.

The lieutenant welcomed the news as "a victory for justice", but said he intended to discuss the matter with his lawyers.

He also said the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union [POPCRU], of which he is president, intended to make an urgent application for a Supreme Court interdict against Wednesday's dismissal of 39 east Cape policemen who participated in a POPCRU sit-in.

In a statement to SAPA, Gen van der Merwe said: "I announce that I have dismissed two more members of the SA [South African] Police force this afternoon as a result of the stipulation of Article 17B of the Police Act due to their involvement in strikes."

Ministry of Law and Order Spokesman Brig Leon Mellet said that one of the two was Lt Rockman.

Reacting to the news, the lieutenant said: "I'm happy they have fired me.

"This shows they are not serious about real reform and change in SA...

"I will still keep on fighting them until the day we move into the new South Africa, where the emphasis in the police will be to serve and protect."

The lieutenant, who joined the force in August 1977 and has been a lieutenant since 1986, said he would be happy to rejoin a non-racial police force in a democratic society.

"I would be the first one to join up," he said.

"But now, apartheid is very much alive in our departments, and we should kill it because apartheid is evil, its sin."

The lieutenant, who has been under suspension without pay since November after taking part in a POPCRU demonstration, this week refused to continue voluntary participation in an internal police disciplinary hearing against him.

He made international headlines when on the day of the general election, September 6, last year, he spoke publicly against riot squad brutality in the Mitchells Plain area where he was stationed.

In November he was instrumental in the formation of POPCRU, and was a key witness in the trial of two riot squad officers on charges of assault arising from squad activity in Mitchells Plain.

His life story has been published in book form with forewords by both Archbishop Desmond Tutu by both Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Dr Allan Boesak, and he features on a pop record.

Authorities Release 12 Political Prisoners

MB2203094690 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0913 GMT 22 Mar 90

[Text] Cape Town, March 22, SAPA—Twelve political prisoners have been released from Robben Island this week—six on Wednesday [21 March] and six on Monday.

Five of the six freed on Wednesday were in the same trial in 1987 and were sentenced to three years each for refusing to testify in a terror trial in Pietermaritzburg.

Those released on Wednesday were Mr. Lungisane Kunene, 34, Mr. Thabane Zulli, 23, Mr. Sibusiso Majola, 23, Mr. Mlungise Magubane, 23, and Mr. Sibusiso Xaba, 22, all members of the ANC [African National Congress], and Mr.

Sello Motlhabakwa, 28, sentenced in 1983 to seven years for terrorism. He is from Kimberley and was a member of the PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress].

On Monday six prisoners due to be freed in June were released. They were Mr. Dledlewine Ganya, 53, of Soweto, sentenced to 11 years in 1979 for terrorism in Bethal. He was a member of the PAC and its military wing, Cape Town News reports said.

Mr. Christopher Sidlayiya, 31 of Cape Town, sentenced to seven years in 1983 in the Oscar Mpetha trial, was also set free as was Mr. Sello Motse, 25, of Sharpeville, sentenced to four years in 1986 for subversion.

Mr. Lucky Twallo, 28 of Soweto, sentenced to five years in 1985 for terrorism as was Mr. Nkwenkwe Madela, 33, of Uitenhage, sentenced to 12 years in 1978 for sabotage and Mr. Wilfred Mabena, 29, sentenced in 1985 for terrorism.

Internal Security Restrictions Lifted on 47 People

MB2303113190 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0959 GMT 23 Mar 90

[Text] Pretoria, March 23, SAPA—The names of 47 people prevented from being quoted under the Internal Security Act have been removed from the consolidated list, according to a notice in a government gazette released in Pretoria on Friday [23 March].

The Notice was issued in terms of section 16(6)(B) of the Internal Security Act of 1982 by the director of security legislation, Mr. J.J. du Plessis.

The names are:

Bakardien, Baderaan Ismail; Charles, Joseph; Gqubule, Duma; Hart, Maxine Sandra; Hogan, Barbara Anne; Jacobs, Clyde; Kgasi, Nicholaas Ramtshana; Khan, Farieda; King, Headley Moses; Loveday, Marian Annette; Maake, Christopher Juventus Maponya; Mabe, Lucas Mothibedi; Magwaza, Nkosinathi Edgar; Makhubo, Jabulani Bartholomeu; Makomoren, Eric Tsietse; Mashego, Jacob; Matshikiza, Patrick Sizwe; Mgemntu, Mary; Moerane, Neo Mahase; Mokone, Andrew; Motsa, Minden Makgene; Mphela, Andrew Mmaphiri Tshogofatso; Msibi, Bhekiye Paulos; Msinkinya, Leslie; Mullins, Claude Elias; Muthiewana, Azwinidini Vivian; Myeni, Samuel Vulindlela; Nene, Vusumuzi Vivian; Newman, Peter William; Ngobeni, Edward Masuku; Nkabinde, Andries Mandla; Patel, Vijaydave Naran Rama; Phantsie, Thembile Johan; Pharedi, Jerry Matong; Qobeka, Nelson Makhenkeleza; Radebe, Rufus; Ramego, Amos Tswelopelo; Scott, Leon; Shongwe, Frank Siphos; Sithebe, Nkosinathi Moses; Sons, Progress; Sotyelelo, Japan; Thabethe, Vusi Meshack; Tsamane, Khehla Enoch; Tshongweni, Mongesi; Twala, Harold, Nkanyezi; Williams, Rocklyn Mark.

Transkei Leader Holomisa Criticizes Pik Botha

MB2203184690 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1842 GMT 22 Mar 90

[Text] Umtata March 22 SAPA—Transkei Military Council Chairman Maj-Gen Bantu Holomisa on Thursday [22 March] hit out at SA [South African] Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha for his department's recent publication in the press of a document that details Transkei's overexpenditure.

This is a sequel to a public row between the two states after Gen Holomisa claimed Mr Botha asked him to drop corruption charges against hotel magnate Sol Kerzner.

The Department of Foreign Affairs made public on Sunday the contents of a document that reviews the income and expenditure of Transkei—showing a deficit of R555 million [rand].

Gen Holomisa said in a statement on Thursday his country had inherited a situation "that has been an ongoing process for over a decade as this country has been run on an overdraft facility since 1976".

This position had been brought about by insufficient funding which traced itself to independence, Gen Holomisa said.

"It is only now that the RSA [Republic of South Africa] is realising that the current backlog has this historical background. Between 1988 and 1989/90 various studies undertaken by both governments will prove that Transkei has all along not been sufficiently funded through budgetary transfers by RSA."

The standards employed by South Africa in funding the TBVC [Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda, Ciskei] states had been a bone of contention as they did not take into consideration "the needs approach and analysis bases".

"Transkei is a very huge country with a vast population, and its socio-economic and administrative needs are determined by the two factors mentioned."

"We are grappling with these unenviable difficulties that are clearly the leftovers of a bitter legacy characteristic of a government not wholly concerned with the interests and aspirations of its entire heterogeneous population."

"Since the military take-over, the Transkei government has brought Transkei's financial position to the attention of the RSA Government."

Gen Holomisa said he wished to re-affirm "the fact that the row between Mr Pik Botha and Transkei over the imagined deteriorating financial situation derives from the confirmation of approaches by him to me to drop corruption charges against Mr Sol Kerzner".

He added that an advertisement he placed in last week's Sunday newspapers and "which seems to have exasperated the how minister", was made up mainly of addresses he had already delivered.

"These had been given coverage in the past by the media and were therefore a matter of public consumption," Gen Holomisa said.

Bophuthatswana Rejects Reincorporation Referendum

*MB2303073590 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 0500 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] The Bophuthatswana National Assembly has unanimously adopted a motion calling for the rejection of the possible reincorporation of the country into South Africa. In addition, the motion endorsed the recent declaration of the state of emergency.

The Bophuthatswana minister of justice, Mr. Godfrey Mothibe, said reincorporation could come about only with the passing of legislation in both countries.

A parliamentary spokesman said that a referendum would not be held on the matter. He said his party had won the elections three years previously against an opposition which had campaigned for reincorporation.

Qwaqwa Homeland 'Calm' Following 22 Mar Unrest

*MB2303114090 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1049 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Bloemfontein March 23 SAPA—Calm returned to the homeland of Qwaqwa following Thursday's [22 March] unrest in which hundreds of thousands of rands damage was caused to buildings and houses, SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] reported on Friday.

Pupils returned to schools and bus services resumed.

A police spokesman said some people suspected in the looting of a shop and a garage were arrested. Some of the stolen goods have also been recovered.

23 Mar Press Review on Current Problems, Issues

MB2303140090

[Editorial Report]

THE STAR

Cabinet Think-Tank Session Before ANC Meeting—The page 10 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 23 March states: "To the extent that the Cabinet feels it necessary to go into extended conclave to rethink strategies and priorities, it shows a praiseworthy wish to stay abreast of a fast-changing scene." A meeting is likely to take place "immediately before the crucial first official contacts with the ANC [African National Congress] on

paving the way to constitutional negotiations. The last time the Cabinet took to the bush for a think-tank session (in December last year), it came up with decisions which won applause from the world and raised domestic hopes sky-high."

BUSINESS DAY

Nujoma Investment Example 'Lesson' for ANC—"There were more lessons for the ANC in Windhoek this week than that Western leaders do not believe intensified sanctions will help solve South Africa's economic and political problems," observes a page 6 editorial in Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 23 March. While Nelson Mandela was pleading for more sanctions against South Africa, President Nujoma was calling for "increased foreign investment in Namibia." "Like Nujoma, the ANC wants economic growth, development and job creation. Like Nujoma, the ANC cannot have that and nationalisation as well. Nujoma has raised a flag he hopes will signal economic prosperity; before it gets anywhere near power, the ANC drives off foreign investors who may never return. Nujoma has wrestled with the realities of investment capital; the ANC should spend time in Windhoek watching what he does and how it turns out."

SOWETAN

Call for City Council Spy Ring Probe—Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 23 March in a page 8 editorial says the government should "heed the call by the Democratic Party for a public probe into an alleged spy ring in the Johannesburg City Council." "The government has already appointed the Harms Commission to look into allegations of the existence of police death squads. It should not be difficult to appoint another commission to ensure that our public life is clean and that public money is not used for sinister projects."

Call To Hand Over Walvis Bay—A second editorial on the same page says the "logical thing" for the South African Government to do is to hand over Walvis Bay to Namibia. "Whatever argument is advanced, it is difficult to explain how a town in the middle of Namibia can be part of South Africa. The question of Walvis Bay still leaves a sour taste in the mouth after the joy of Namibian independence."

THE NATAL WITNESS

Editorial on Budget—The page 8 editorial in Pietermaritzburg THE NATAL WITNESS in English on 15 March refers to the budget announced by Finance Minister Barend du Plessis on 14 March, saying it is "certainly not stimulatory and, allied to a tight monetary policy which keeps interest rates positive in real terms, should bring down inflation. But the twin objective of lower inflation and a surplus on the current account of the balance of payments points towards a slowdown of economic growth and stagnating employment." "The intentions are admirable, but there is no avoiding the dilemma of how to lower taxes when there is a growing demand for social and economic reform."

Angola

MPLA Claims 163 UNITA Troops Killed 17-21 Mar

MB2203205490 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1915 GMT 22 Mar 90

[Text] A communique issued by the FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] chief of General Staff in Luanda reveals the following results in operations carried out against the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] terrorist gang between 17 and 21 March: Our forces killed 163 bandits and captured 26 others. The FAPLA forces also captured 63 weapons, including 19 60-mm mortars; two submachine guns; two rocket launchers; 556 shells of various types, including 122 for 60-mm mortars; 116 antipersonnel mines; 30 antitank mines; tons of ammunition and light weapons; one land rover vehicle and one large truck.

Twenty-two UNITA elements surrendered to the authorities, including six soldiers.

FAPLA suffered 37 soldiers killed and 49 wounded as a result of the UNITA operations. We also regret to report that 18 civilians were killed, 56 wounded, and 62 abducted.

The FAPLA forces carried out most of those operations in Huambo, Benguela, Cuanza Sul, Bie, Lunda Norte, Cuando Cubango, and Cunene Provinces.

Commentary Criticizes MPLA's 'Genocidal Policy'

MB2203194090 (Clandestine) KUP in English
to Central and Southern Africa 1912 GMT 22 Mar 90

[Commentary: "The Imperative Requisites for an Effective Cease-Fire in Angola"]

[Text] In its arrogant, militarist and genocidal policy the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] has abused the Angolan people. It has betrayed the generous, noble and heroic people of Angola by attacking the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] liberated areas with the intention of destroying the organisation which defends the profound interests of the Angolan populations country-wide.

The MPLA war-puppets want to sacrifice the ideals of freedom, multiparty democracy and social justice.

Basing their policy on force, conquest and destruction of the democratic supreme values of humanity, the MPLA regime wanted to demonstrate that it is the strongest and most powerful, to the point of wanting to prove it to the United States of America, Portugal and other countries. Likewise, it also abused the most industrialised power on Earth, the United States of America, by rejecting the constant appeals made towards the signing of a cease-fire

according to the project already discussed and agreed to by both belligerent parties, UNITA and the MPLA. The MPLA's refusal is part and parcel of a deliberate policy recommended by circles still dreaming of being the central fulcrums of expansionism and hegemonism under the cover of international proletariat.

Consequently, the MPLA has never intended to honestly negotiate with UNITA, least of all sign a cease-fire. The all-out offensive launched by the forces of the stooge Luanda regime against UNITA, comprising 25,000 troops, 400 tanks and armored cars, scores of high tech aircraft using toxic and phosphorous bombs, is all part of a project precisely designed to annihilate UNITA.

The two determined objectives, one political and another military, ran concurrently and both had the same end: capitulation of UNITA. The MPLA war-puppets never had it in their minds that UNITA would tenaciously oppose this militarist adventure. The MPLA forces led by Soviet technicians and military advisers have not only failed to conquer Mavinga, but are also tightly surrounded, daily undergoing slashing blows from the patriotic forces of UNITA.

In this light, the illegitimate Luanda regime is obliged to project to the world a false image of force on the outskirts of Mavinga while it tries to explore this fact politically with the signing of a cease-fire, but which in reality is just another manoeuvre to ease the critical situation of its troops.

All that the MPLA wants from this presence is to gain political advantages and impose unacceptable and intolerable conditions of UNITA. The intension of the MPLA militarist plan by opposing the post-Gbadolite negotiations aimed to create a new Angolan reality is well explained in this case.

The present situation prevailing in our country should be understood in this context to avoid unfounded precipitations in appreciation and analysis.

The MPLA war-puppets are neither flexible nor willing to end the war in Angola. Forced by the military situation on the ground, which is unfavourable to the progression of its forces towards the capture of Mavinga, the MPLA is now obliged to align itself to the United States and South Africa in order to request them to use their influence to press for a so-called cease-fire.

We refer to it as a so-called cease-fire because a true, genuine effective cease-fire, in the interest of peace and national reconciliation in Angola, necessarily implies total pull-out of the MPLA forces from the liberated territory of Angola. Without satisfying these conditions, an effective cease-fire aimed at creating a sound atmosphere leading to genuine peace and national reconciliation is not possible.

A cease-fire not meeting these fundamental requisites would be a white check for the MPLA war-stooges to make their diktat on UNITA, in a manner to destroy the

heroic resistance of the Angolan people. The so-called peace project of the MPLA which reflects a shortsighted political vision should be only watched carefully.

UNITA neither accepts nor will it ever accept to sign a cease-fire with the MPLA under these conditions. The solution is either the MPLA should decide to withdraw its forces back to Quiloa, Namave, or Menongue and other areas where they had originally come from, or the MPLA will be forced to pull-out by the glorious armed forces of UNITA.

UNITA's struggle across the country will intensify each time in order to create a favorable situation and a just and (genuine) peace far from capitulation and diktat. That is why the puppet Luanda regime is very anxious to persuade the allies and friends of UNITA to accept a lame ceasefire without fundamental political validity. What the MPLA should be told is simple: Withdraw as soon as possible from the UNITA liberated areas and you have a ceasefire, otherwise the MPLA will suffer grave consequences as a result of its militarist adventure because no convinced democratic country would accept the destruction of UNITA or its capitulation.

We want a just and genuine peace. We want a democratic Angola with various political parties participating in the national life.

When the MPLA forces launched the offensive against UNITA it was clear from its communiqués and other statements that the so-called victorious march was destined to reach Jamba. It was then the heroic resistance put up by the UNITA patriotic forces which managed to head off this MPLA genocidal march. At no time was there an intention to negotiate on the part of the MPLA, because had it this desire, the project already discussed various times in Zaire between the two belligerents, UNITA and the MPLA, under the auspices of President Mobutu Sese Seko, would have been concluded a long time ago.

UNITA categorically reaffirms that its willingness and readiness to negotiate the end of the Angolan conflict continues intact in the interest of peace and national reconciliation. But it is imperative to deeply analyse the Angolan problematic and understand the real intention of the MPLA for it not to cheat anymore. To achieve an effective cease-fire in Angola it is absolutely necessary, first all, to pull-out totally the MPLA troops from the freeland of Angola.

The MPLA cannot continue to cheat us, the Angolan people, we UNITA militants or our allies and friends.

Long live genuine peace and national reconciliation.

Long live UNITA.

Long live the glorious FALA [Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola].

* Savimbi Increases Pressure Against MPLA

90EF0270B Paris LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS
in French 19 Feb 90 p 19

[Article by Jean-Marc Kalfleche; first paragraph is LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS introduction]

[Text] Jonas Savimbi's UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] does not intend to relax its pressure on the Luanda government's MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] forces. It will persist as long as the Luanda government has not demonstrated very specifically that it wants to negotiate with UNITA.

One fact more than any other demonstrates that UNITA has retained its freedom of movement around Mavinga and even to the rear of the government's first column: when Jonas Savimbi joined us a few days ago, he was returning from the Cungiamban region far north of the Lomba River, an area that receives regular rainfall and is particularly fertile—like the entire Cubia River valley, which extends to the Zambian border—and where his movement has operated a school for agricultural teachers for years and settled a rural population that is quite large for the region (17,000 inhabitants, of whom 6,500 are currently displaced persons). This area currently provides crops for, among other things, the corn mill that we saw operating thanks to a large Mercedes engine in one of the "suburbs" of a city that has never really been one.

Officially, it was for the purpose of reassuring the area's civilian population that the chairman of UNITA interrupted his European tour in Lisbon, but not without first winning the Portuguese prime minister, Cavaco Silva, over to his views. Paradoxically and—here again—for reasons having to do with petroleum (linked to the indemnification of Portuguese who left Angola after the revolution), Cavaco Silva had been a more blind supporter of the MPLA's theses than a Socialist leader like Mario Soares, who was too closely involved in the Angolan decolonization process not to know the exact story about the democratic legitimacy of Eduardo dos Santos and his party-state.

But other things said by Savimbi lead one to think that there was a much more serious reason behind his hasty return. His politico-military rank and file was already hesitant about any prospect of negotiation, as could be seen at the special congress in September, when the delegate from a local committee in the north called out to Jonas Savimbi: "Try to negotiate with those liars in the MPLA, but for goodness' sake, keep a bullet in your gun!" And the rank and file no longer saw any need whatever for the movement to seek new political support in Europe, because the United States had responded very promptly to UNITA's request for emergency aid (something not precluded by the New York accord, if anyone needs reminding, and neither is the aid—10 times larger—that the USSR is continuing to lavish on Luanda), and since the turn of events had clearly shown

that the MPLA wanted war, had been preparing for it for a long time (400 armored vehicles!), and was not going to change its mind until it was forced and compelled to do so by another defeat in the field. We had noted that determination, which is much more pronounced among the troops than among the top officers, from the moment we arrived on the front and heard the vehement irony with which an entire squad of artillerymen commented on the news of the day: a speech by Dos Santos, who had told his "People's Assembly" on the evening of 7 February that he did not really intend to destroy UNITA but merely to show that he was capable of controlling the entire country. His audience in Mavinga obviously remembered that just two days earlier, that same Dos Santos had talked about "crushing" UNITA, and everyone saw his new restraint—caused partly by the fact that his tactical groups had gotten bogged down in the mud and partly by the partial political defeat he had just suffered in Kinshasa—as reflecting his hope of turning his defeat in the field into a diplomatic victory—that is, of getting his allies abroad to demand a cease-fire, but one based on the positions currently held by FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola], which now finds itself encysted in the very middle of areas declared "free" by UNITA a good 10 years ago.

Signs of Bad Temper

"Unacceptable!" was the cry. "They have to be pushed back up to Kuito!" We would not have given that sign of bad temper in front of a visiting reporter any more attention than it deserved had not Jonas Savimbi himself told us the same thing 24 hours later. The difference was that he said it almost with regret, so deeply does he believe that the MPLA's suicidal behavior can be only a temporary obstacle—but a cruel one, considering the unnecessary losses on both sides—to the process of national reconciliation (it is said here that nearly 400 died between 21 December and 8 February, including 70 on UNITA's side).

Paraphrasing a statement by Hassan II when the latter was facing another war situation, Jonas Savimbi can rightly say that he is "the most moderate of UNITA's militants." But apparently he is no longer in a position to risk granting Dos Santos what the Americans suggested to him two weeks ago, when they recommended that he leave FAPLA a "free corridor" allowing it to withdraw to Kuito-Canavale without serious new harm being done.

Unacceptable Risk

"I am willing to admit any possibility," he says, "for example, that the Cuban battalion that has been fighting here since 7 October is only trying to rescue the six Soviet officers who we know are opposite Mavinga and who cannot extricate themselves honorably. There are signs pointing in that direction. For example, we know through radio interceptions that they are trying to get helicopters to come back from Kuito, even though they know that helicopters are very vulnerable (we shot down two and picked up one of the two crews). For example, I

can tell you that an emissary from President Houphouët-Boigny recently delivered to Castro the letter I wrote to him following the unfortunate mistake in Hanya Note (north of Benguela) and that Fidel told him in substance: 'I accept UNITA's good faith.'"

Jonas Savimbi continued: "But in reality, there is nothing to prove that new gestures of goodwill by our movement will not backfire on him. There is nothing yet to demonstrate that the new column that has left Kuito will not try once again to carry out Dos Santos' crazy dream—that is, to use the Mavinga airstrip as a base from which to bomb Jamba, which is the nerve center of our resistance because of its powerful means of communication. I cannot accept that risk, and many foreign officials do not accept it any longer, including some in your own country, France, because some of your officials in Paris have also come to realize that without Savimbi and, above all, without Savimbi's well-organized apparatus, Angola would sink into a Mozambican-style situation—into a state of total war from north to south.

"Look at the summary map of our most successful guerrilla operations over the past 20 months: only the extreme southwest is safe from our actions. I can tell you that we are going to step up such actions considerably until the MPLA pulls back to the positions it had before 21 September and until it gives very concrete evidence that it is ready to discuss with us—directly with us—in the presence of the mediator or his representatives, but not through that mediator, the details of a cease-fire plan that will now be all the more difficult to enforce because the Luanda people have seriously disappointed the hopes held by all Angolans after Gbadolite and considerably complicated my job when it comes to calming all the guerrilla groups fighting in our name north of the Benguela Railroad."

And Jonas Savimbi mentioned a specific example: on 3 February, two days after his return from Europe, he was informed that one of his guerrilla groups had not stopped at taking the small town of Lunge north of Huambo, the main town on the central plateau, but that its leader had also seized an International Red Cross airplane that had come, under the terms of an agreement between UNITA and the ICRC [International Commission for the Red Cross], to pick up FAPLA troops wounded during the attack.

"I had to talk to the leader of that group personally by radio to persuade him to let the ICRC people carry out their mission. The guy did not understand why I was congratulating him for taking Lunge but then ordering him to release the opponent's wounded. Even before I returned from Europe, I had, in fact, given the order for a general attack throughout the territory, and I would like for you to notice that while that was the second time since the start of this civil war, the only reason I canceled the first order 10 months ago was that I gave in to the very friendly pressure from President Houphouët-Boigny. And even at that, I was forced at the time to ask the Ivorian president to make his appeal public, because

my troops have great confidence in him and were very reluctant to give up the offensive.

Illusion

"Today, I would run the risk of being very misunderstood if I cancelled my second order for a general offensive. Because you must be very clear about my situation and that of the officers at my headquarters: we are 90-percent sure that we could make our troops see reason if the MPLA gave us good arguments for doing so, but even if it did, there might be 10 percent who would not go along with us if Dos Santos and his barons did not clearly come to terms, and there might be a lot more than 10 percent if the Luanda leaders took it into their heads to bomb Jamba and our communications center. The very illusion that they are going to destroy UNITA by smashing Jamba or neutralizing me personally shows that they have a very unrealistic view of the current state of mind in this country. But believing that they will be able to persuade our militants to rally around after Jamba or Jonas Savimbi has been destroyed means that they completely misjudge our people's determination and the latter's certainty that they are fighting for the right cause and also for the intellectual level of our militants and cadres, who are certainly as well-trained in all disciplines—I can say this with certainty—as those in the MPLA. Do you believe for a moment that they will be content with the 'broadening' of democracy being promised them by Dos Santos? Before you can 'broaden' a democracy, you have to have one, and they know that there is none in any area."

Jonas Savimbi concluded by saying: "As you say in France, every cloud has a silver lining. The cloud here is those useless deaths—those FAPLA brigades doomed to the worst if the MPLA does not quickly begin its own perestroika. The silver lining is, for one thing, that international and particularly African public opinion now knows that the MPLA has no good faith and, for another, that within the MPLA's own leadership bodies, it will become increasingly difficult to maintain that there is a military solution to the problem posed by UNITA. Dos Santos will no longer be able to say: 'Since I am able to take Mavinga, you no longer have any choice but to support me.'"

* UNITA Representative Views Recent Fighting

90EF0285B Lisbon O DIABO in Portuguese
20 Feb 90 pp 16-17

[Interview with Alcides Sakala, UNITA representative in Lisbon, by Miguel Alvarenga, in Lisbon on 19 February, 1990; first paragraph is O DIABO introduction]

[Text] "We have proof, including names, that Portuguese mercenaries are in Mavinga, directing the FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] offensive against us." So said Colonel Alcides Sakala, member of the Central Committee of UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] and the

movement's representative in Portugal. He was previously posted in the United States and the FRG, where he served in the same capacity. He has been in our country for six years. "It has been a good experience," he says. He has made friends. He believes today that he has helped to "build bridges to bring our two peoples together." He is not afraid of threats and he does not go around protected by a thousand security measures. He arrived an hour late for this interview yesterday morning. "It was the traffic; I'm sorry." He arrived alone, at the wheel of his own car. He does not even carry a weapon. "There are no problems," he declares. The interview took place in his office, on a floor of a Lisbon building where UNITA has set up shop. On the wall is a huge poster of Jonas Savimbi—pistol in holster.

[O DIABO] Col Sakala, what is the situation in Mavinga?

[Sakala] At this time, the fighting is still very violent. Mavinga is ours, obviously, and we are going to resist. FAPLA is already having problems in terms of logistical supplies and we are taking the military initiative in the rest of the country. Luanda has been without water and power lately; we have operations in all the provinces, in response to this offensive that the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] has launched against us. So the situation in Mavinga could go on for some days, but we have resisted heroically.

[O DIABO] If you lose this battle, what, specifically, will that defeat mean for UNITA?

[Sakala] Well, in the first place, we are not going to lose Mavinga, or the battle. We have held out for the last two or three months and we are not going to pull back now. Mavinga is strategically significant, obviously, particularly in this phase which we are entering now, the period of the negotiating process. Negotiations are simply a matter of time, so the MPLA is logically attempting to gain some ground. And we are not going to permit it. We think that, after this, Luanda will have no choice but to negotiate with us. We remain open to dialogue, direct dialogue between us and the MPLA, as the only forum that can lead to a final solution to the Angolan problem.

Portuguese Involved

[O DIABO] Does UNITA have any indication that Portuguese mercenaries are backing FAPLA troops in Mavinga, as the Lisbon newspapers have been reporting?

[Sakala] We have solid indications. Much of this information has come into our hands, even here in Lisbon. We know the individuals, we have names, proof that Portuguese mercenaries are involved in Angola, in this offensive. We should also point out an important aspect: At this time the MPLA is persistently using chemical warfare, toxic bombs, phosphorus, and napalm against our people. You know, zones which they have bombed with some regularity, such as Licua, are densely populated. We have many of our people there, schools, hospitals and so on, and this is the zone that has been

systematically massacred. The people who have been affected, the victims of this action, are completely accessible to the international community; you can visit them any time you think fit, talk with them and observe "in loco" the results of this systematic holocaust perpetrated by the MPLA against defenseless Angolans.

Favorable U.S. Reaction

[O DIABO] With regard to support, specifically U.S. support, it is said that UNITA has received more war materiel. Is this true?

[Sakala] It is true. The Americans have reacted favorably, positively, both in quantitative and qualitative terms. American cooperation has been very important; we think it will have a decisive influence on what we feel should be the next steps in the days to come.

[O DIABO] Would you give your assessment of UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi's recent visit to Portugal?

[Sakala] We are greatly satisfied with the results. We want to thank all the Portuguese and Angolans who, directly or indirectly, helped to give dimension to this visit, particularly Dr Mario Soares, as always, a man of courage. From the day of President Savimbi's arrival, he had the courage to take on the issue of Angola and of this visit and give it his perspective; the audience with President Savimbi was decisive. We also recognize, as a profoundly important gesture, the prime minister's willingness to receive Dr Savimbi and, in general, to review with us the situation in Angola. Above all, we were left with the feeling that Portugal could indirectly play an important role in bringing the two parties together in this prenegotiation phase. Unfortunately, the visit ended sooner than we would have wished, because of the situation in Mavinga, but the three days were a great success. We succeeded in talking with the Portuguese, explaining the UNITA point of view, and we feel that a base has now been created for a much more profound dialogue between Angola and Portugal. We appeal to Portugal to use its influence, the historic role that falls to it, to aid in our search for paths to hasten a final solution for the Angolan problem.

FNLA Included

[O DIABO] Did you read the interview with Holden Roberto in Sunday's CORREIO DE MANHA?

[Sakala] I haven't had a chance to read it because I was away.

[O DIABO] Will the FNLA [National Front for the Liberation of Angola] also take part in the peace negotiations in Angola?

[Sakala] We think that, in a later phase, the FNLA will come in. Now it is necessary to establish a direct dialogue between us and the MPLA, to negotiate our differences, to talk this over. A transition government must be created, the constitution must be revised, various measures must be taken. We think that all the

political forces in Angola have a proper place in a multiparty system. But the essential thing now is to solve this problem of the war.

[O DIABO] And within this framework, the FNLA has not had any direct part in the war? Is that it?

[Sakala] Yes. The FNLA has its place, obviously, but, as I said before, within a later framework. At this time, the situation must be discussed and settled between the forces that are fighting on the terrain; that is, the MPLA and UNITA.

Mandela's Release First Step

[O DIABO] Col Alcides Sakala, can you comment on the release of Mandela?

[Sakala] We think it was an important step toward a solution in the complex South African chessboard. We are all familiar with the situation and we think this good-will gesture by President De Klerk is significant. Let us hope it will aid in the search for shorter paths—with less loss of life, obviously—to a South African solution.

[O DIABO] This is your sixth year in Portugal as leader of the UNITA delegation. Your assessment?

[Sakala] I have had good experiences. I have made friends and my actions have aimed to bring the two peoples closer together. I have helped to build bridges and to facilitate this dialogue between nations.

[O DIABO] You do not feel threatened?

[Sakala] There is a saying that the Portuguese are a gentle people, isn't there? There have been no threats, nor do I fear them. Such incidents as there have been, we have made known to the legal authorities. Our behavior has been model. We have been in contact with those responsible for the institutions that guarantee security in Portugal. Witness the way President Savimbi's visit was handled. They responded positively to all our concerns.

[Box, p 17] Mavinga Burning?

Almost as this edition of O DIABO was going to press, following our interview with UNITA representative in Portugal, we received reports from Mavinga contradicting statements by Col Sakala. North American, English and South African sources have information indicating that Mavinga has been destroyed, although it has not been confirmed whether or not the zone has been taken by the MPLA forces.

However, the same sources confirm other statements by Alcides Sakala: that the United States has, in fact, sent surplus conventional war materiel from its forces on other continents, fearing that it was going to fall into the hands of the Soviet Union. Moreover, the Angolan Government is afraid that UNITA is carrying out its plan to spread the war throughout the country, as Renamo has been doing in Mozambique. Alcides Sakala

confirmed this when he told us that "we are taking the initiative throughout the country," citing the case of Luanda, which "has been without water or power for several days."

UNITA's "new" weapons may now include "Chaparral" missiles (in addition to the Stinger II), self-propelled howitzers, light tanks, and heavy mortars. But it lacks specialists.

*** MPLA-PT Encourages Ideological Pluralism**

90EF0282B Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese
12 Feb 90 p 5

[Text] The MPLA-PT [Peoples Movement for the Liberation of Angola—Labor Party] rejects the immediate possibility of pluralism in Angola, but supports the pluralism of ideas, to allow a confrontation of opinions that could contribute to the resolution of different problems.

This position was reaffirmed last week in Luanda by MPLA-PT CC [Central Committee] Secretary for Ideological Affairs Roberto de Almeida, in a speech on the topic "Change in the Eastern European Countries and Reflections on the Peoples Republic of Angola."

According to AIM [MOZAMBIQUE INFORMATION AGENCY], Roberto de Almeida justified his position by citing the wartime conditions the country is experiencing, saying that the existence of other parties would necessarily imply elections of a Western type.

"In the electoral system referendums, which are Western political methods, can not be held in wartime, with displaced populations," he said.

Angola has had a very different historical development from that of the European socialist countries, which is why "elections cannot be held with other parties, because they would cause a great deal of confusion," he said.

"Thus, the approval of the principle of free elections in a single party framework at this stage represents a great advance in our political system, if we take into account pluralism of ideas and guarantee of the right of association," he said.

According to him, associations can propose candidates for the organs of state power, and individual citizens who have significant popular support can also run.

He said that "we are not going to allow, at least for the moment, political parties to be created under the cover of civic associations."

Referring to the future of members of the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] leadership, he announced that they could be admitted into the government and that after the opening that his party is experiencing "would be admitted as members of the MPLA-PT."

He emphasized that future revision of the electoral law anticipates filling certain state positions through competition between members of the party and independent candidates.

He pointed out that "the role of unifying force of society and the political vanguard of all the working people in this historical stage will fall to the MPLA-PT."

Roberto de Almeida disclosed that a Ministry of Information will be created in Angola and that the constitutional statute of this ministry is now being prepared.

Journalistic activities in Angola are presently regulated by the Department of Information and Propaganda of the MPLA-PT CC.

*** Major General Ndalú Discusses Recent Fighting**

90EF0285A Lisbon O JORNAL in Portuguese
23 Feb 89 p 21

[Interview with Major General Franca Ndalú, chief of staff of the Angolan Armed Forces, by William Tonet, in Luanda, date not given]

[Text] [O JORNAL] There are conflicting reports about Mavinga. Have the government forces taken it or not?

[Ndalú] We decided to conduct certain operations because of increased action by UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola], despite the Gbadolite Accord. One operation centered on Mavinga, a strategic point through which UNITA sends military units and materiel and from which it launches its actions in northern Angola. Our operation there is not for propaganda purposes; it has military goals. We are concerned about the disinformation, because the fact is that we have captured Mavinga.

[O JORNAL] How can you prove that? UNITA guarantees that it sent a journalist to this locale."

[Ndalú] At this time we cannot offer anything but our word. A Defense Ministry communique stated that the locale is under our control and this is the truth, which will be recognized sooner or later. I am surprised that the journalist you mention went to Mavinga and said the landing field was intact. It is not. It has been destroyed; it has more than 20 craters made by exploding shells. So it surprises me that this newsman went to Mavinga and found the landing strip intact.

[O JORNAL] Has the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] wagered all its military strength on this offensive?

[Ndalú] This is not so. Contrary to what UNITA says, we did not send men and materiel from other areas to the Cuito front. What has happened is that, in the past, whenever the Angolan troops reached the banks of the Lomba River, the South African Army intervened. That did not happen this time and we did not have to send in reinforcements.

[O JORNAL] Not even planes?

[Ndalú] No, not even planes. It is said that we are using 12-plane squadrons, but, although we have them, we have not needed to employ them up to now. We never needed more than four aircraft during the operation.

[O JORNAL] Is Mavinga a stage in the drive to Jamba?

[Ndalú] I am not going to say. We are still at war and there is no cease-fire in effect. We don't want a military solution to the conflict, but the government forces cannot sit on their hands when UNITA is continuing to attack, even shelling Luanda and sabotaging the power and water supplies. However, the contacts are continuing at various levels in search of a negotiated settlement and whether we continue the war or make peace depends on those contacts. For our part, we think this conflict should end in a negotiated settlement.

[O JORNAL] You have directed the negotiations with UNITA. What conditions have you set for a cease-fire?

[Ndalú] The Angolan Government has already delivered a peace plan to President Mobutu, the intermediary, and we are waiting for a reply. There are those who feel that the use of an intermediary rules out the possibility of direct contacts, but this is not the case. The intermediary prepares the way for the acceptance of the proposals by the parties. Then, inevitably, we will have to enter into direct contact to settle the problem. It is only through direct contact that we can settle an internal difference.

[O JORNAL] At this time when the war is going stronger than ever, where would you agree to hold talks with UNITA?

[Ndalú] It all depends on how the work of the intermediary goes. But, as I said, sooner or later there will have to be direct contact. Meanwhile, the war is one thing and negotiations are another.

[O JORNAL] Namibia has a multiparty system and De Klerk has legalized parties that have been banned up to now. Speaking as a member of the Political Bureau of the MPLA, what effect do you think these changes in southern Africa will have on Angola?

[Ndalú] Our government has never said it was opposed to a multiparty system. It happens that, in the war situation which we are experiencing, with the country in a state of disorganization and with so little control over the distribution of weapons, it would be virtually impossible to conduct elections in which several parties compete. With the sides armed as they are, we would be bringing the whole conflict into the cities. But we have to use the dialectical method of reasoning and be aware that things are changing every day.

[O JORNAL] Assuming that peace comes, what are the priorities?

[Ndalú] First we must organize the country, giving priority to organizing a single army and recovering all

the weapons in the possession of the people. Then, with social stability, we can decide on our future.

Footnote

* A journalist from the NOUVELLE REVUE INTERNATIONALE, a French magazine which habitually defends the positions of Jonas Savimbi's movement, claims to have visited Mavinga, in the company of the rebels, after Luanda had said it was under government control.

* FAPLA Column Delivers Materiel to Mavinga

90EF0282D Lisbon EXPRESSO in Portuguese
24 Feb 90 p 16

[Excerpt] Over the last 72 hours, FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] has succeeded in bringing an important column of supplies to the Mavinga zone, which will alleviate the food, ammunition and fuel shortages facing the Luanda forces dispatched there, according to statements made to EXPRESSO by military sources.

The informants confirmed that FAPLA military leaders were concentrated in the area of Cuito.

On confirming the arrival of this column, a new counter-counter-offensive on the part of the Angolan Government forces would be expected, which could be on the scale of the initial offensive, since during military operations of the last few days UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] has succeeded in liquidating FAPLA groups that had infiltrated deeply into territory occupied by the rebels, and in penetrating positions conquered by the Army of Luanda.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Senate is debating a motion of support for UNITA, which in general appeals for support for the guerrilla movement and equates any attack on Mavinga or Jamba with a direct attack on an ally of the United States. According to what EXPRESSO has learned, Washington has delivered to Luanda, through diplomatic channels, repeated appeals for FAPLA "not to go too far, to the point of attacking Jamba." [passage omitted]

* UNITA Update on Mavinga Fighting

90EF0285C Lisbon O DIABO in Portuguese
20 Feb 90 p 32

[Text] The FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] forces closest to Mavinga—tactical groups 1, 2 and 3—are in an area 10 to 15 km north/northwest of Mavinga.

The Forward Command Post and Tactical Group 4 are in Dirdo (40 km west of Mavinga).

Tactical Group 6 is in Macuba, 45 km west of Mavinga.

None of these groups has been resupplied with fuel in recent days.

Of the logistical convoy (about 200 vehicles) which left Cuito Cuanavale on 8 February, only 78 vehicles reached the headwaters of the Lomba River. The rest of the convoy—which was ambushed several times by UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola]—is stopped in mid-route with the 8th FAPLA Brigade. On Sunday, several tanker trucks which attempted to proceed to Mavinga were burned by UNITA.

Thus the forces on the southern edge of the Lomba River are without fuel.

There is no confirmation of a UNITA withdrawal from Mavinga and it would make no sense at this time, since they have not done so before now. The political symbolism is great and the situation has not improved for FAPLA.

Strategic Analysis

The deployment of the FAPLA forces between Cuito Cuanavale and Mavinga, seeking to create and consolidate intermediate positions—at the headwaters of the Lomba, in Dinde, in Mamba—could indicate two purposes, which may even be alternative:

- To secure these positions for the rainy season;
- To secure these positions for a retreat.

General Ndalu, chief of staff of FAPLA, is now coordinating the operations on the Cuito Cuanavale fronts and the Londe front. About 30 Soviet advisors continue to maintain operational command, far from the front.

* Situation on Mavinga Front Described

90EF0270A Paris LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS
in French 16 Feb 90 p 19

[Article by Jean-Mark Kalfleche; first paragraph is LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS introduction]

[Text] The government forces of the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] party-state have not taken Mavinga (20 hours by trail north of Jamba, the headquarters of UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola]), and for the moment, their situation seems perilous. But in addition to the Soviet "advisers" who are still on the scene, a battalion of special Cuban forces is on its way to the theater of operations in flagrant violation of the New York accord.

Mavinga, February—A reassuring but eventually tiresome constant in the policy of Luanda authorities is their relentless passion for lies and disinformation. The fact that their most basic instrument in that area continues to be called very officially the Department of Propaganda says a lot about their refusal to be inspired by the glasnost adopted by Gorbachev, who is still their comrade. The timetested tactic employed by President Dos Santos' team consists of completely falsifying reality so as at least to sow doubt and then, when the lie seems like too much of a whopper, to fall back on sabre rattling but

to claim that it held back from "crushing the puppets" (the expression it uses) at the last minute to enable them to return to the righteous paths of national unity—the paths it has been imposing on Angola since the Soviet-Cuban takeover by force in 1975.

That is what is happening in the case of Mavinga, 20 hours by trail north of Jamba, the headquarters of UNITA. One gets a startling understanding of Luanda's methods by following not only the course of the battle under way but also the story of it as reported in the media.

Dos Santos' Meetings

More than five weeks passed—and it is crucial to remember that period of time—between the day when a huge FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] column left Cuito-Canavale on 21 December (with 400 armored vehicles, including 200 BTM-1 armored personnel carriers) and the day when it arrived opposite Mavinga. The sandy and, in this rainy season, particularly soft terrain made it necessary to clear a path through very dense undergrowth and to avoid as much as possible the traps set by a guerrilla force heavily equipped with antitank weapons (the only reasonably passable trail for vehicles has been completely mined since 1976).

Meanwhile, the bragging by Dos Santos himself, who claimed that he was going to hold meetings in Mavinga—presumably in front of a few abandoned chickens—first on the 10th, then on the 12th, and finally on the 27th of January, attracted a small squad of journalists to this former Portuguese post, which in itself is of absolutely no strategic importance (it consists of four or five barrack-like buildings squatting on the riverbank and has a maximum of 300 inhabitants on market days). Only two of those journalists—an American and a Swiss who occasionally works for Radio France International—had the patience to wait for Savimbi to leave for Lisbon, witness the start of the offensive, and describe its character, which at the outset was harrowing for UNITA. MiG's bombed "the city," but from an altitude of from 7,000 to 8,000 kilometers [as published], putting them beyond the range of the Stinger missiles, and BTM's did their best to cross the Cubia River and stay on the other side once they got there—until three of their four portable bridges were destroyed.

On 1 February, those two reporters returned to Europe on the same plane that had brought back Savimbi, that big spoilsport who prevents pressure from being applied all around in the name of "scientific socialism" and the realpolitik of a few known and respected oil companies, which now seem preoccupied with accommodating their vision of the future as best they can without worrying unduly about the time bombs they have left behind.

Boomerang

There had been no outside witnesses in Mavinga since the first of this month, and it was believed successively

that the position had been won and then—thanks to radio reports just yesterday from the sort of open dugout on the riverbank that serves as field headquarters for General "Ben Ben," UNITA's chief of staff—that Dos Santos had not yet won his gamble. In fact, the situation may be just the reverse, and "Ben Ben" (whose real name is Arlindo Pena) and his deputy, General "Bock" (Altino Sapolato, a well-known figure in the resistance because of an arm lost in 1978 and his cheerful and seemingly inexhaustible energy), are apparently in a position to transform into a boomerang the diplomatic-military operation concocted by the MPLA leadership and headed by the commander in chief of FAPLA himself, "Ndalu." "Ndalu" is one of the old gang. He is a member of the Political Bureau who so far has been clever enough to pass himself off as a "moderate"—that being the usual trap into which "well-informed" circles abroad have hastened to fall.

Self-Discipline and Hunger To Win

The defeat of Luanda's people would be practically assured had not the guerrilla members who swarm around Cuito and keep Mavinga and Jamba constantly informed just announced that an elite Cuban battalion had itself gotten under way last Wednesday, the 7th, at the head of a second column that is apparently going to resupply the first (deserters confirm that the eight "tactical groups" that withdrew a respectful distance from UNITA¹ have received no food supplies or fuel for a month), dig it out of the mud (it is surrounded by guerrilla forces across the river and under constant bombardment by hostile artillery), and also, perhaps, resume the offensive if more effective armament and more portable bridges are being brought along.

No one knows what will happen here a month from now, which is when the second column should arrive within cannon range of Mavinga, but 500 meters from this deserted locality, which is hardly more worthy of its success with the media than Haouza, that empty ruin in the desert that Polisario [Popular Front for the Liberation of Saguia el Hamra and Rio de Oro] passed off as the capital of its "republic" for months and even years; it is obvious that FAPLA has not gotten through and that a new offensive, with or without the Cubans, would cost it a great deal without yielding anything conclusive except the certainty of a large-scale resumption of the revolutionary war by the other camp—not a very heartening prospect if one considers Mozambique's case.

We were convinced of this less by "Ben Ben" or "Bock"² than by the sight of the militant UNITA soldiers concentrated around Mavinga (12,000 men compared to 20,000 from "the other side") and in the five or six rear positions we passed during our 17-hour trip by road from Likuwa through a forest that is more Mediterranean than tropical³. Mavinga itself strangely resembles a large Lombard farm half hidden in the fog on the banks of some tributary of the Po River. Everything is there: the poplars and the squat buildings where the Portuguese

colonial administrator must have led an easy life in the blessed days of the colonies.

Life later became less fun for Salazar's and Caetano's young soldiers because these eastern borders of Angola, being very well-suited to guerrilla warfare, were particularly unhealthy. But while the men in the "revolution of the carnations" [1974] lost their morale after 15 years of war, it seems that morale among Savimbi's people has never been higher. The fact that his men, some of whom have been in the underground for 20 years, are seasoned troops capable of winning can be seen in their good spirits and that very characteristic mixture of absolute self-discipline and respectful familiarity with the hierarchy: things get done here without shouting or big talk and are all the more impressive because of that.

Jamba's big parades could give the impression of a sham power, even though FAPLA, Russians, and Cubans have been fraternally failing in front of Mavinga every year since 1985 despite the huge resources set in motion in 1987 and just last August—although the media have said practically nothing about that next-to-last attempt. It could also be wondered whether those fine brigades lined up in square formations would be able to hold out without the South Africans. But there have been no South Africans for nearly a year, and everyone in Pretoria rejects the idea of jeopardizing the New York accord in any way (Savimbi even seems to fear a stab in the back by "Pik" Botha, who is on the best of terms with his colleague in Luanda, "Loy" Van Dunem, and apparently in no hurry to deny the rumors periodically started by the Propaganda Division—for example, the story about an engagement alongside UNITA of the famous "Buffalo" battalion, which, in fact, is in its barracks in the Transvaal, or of the 4,000 no less famous Kowoets, black auxiliaries of the South African black police in Namibia, who, in fact, have been taken over by Pretoria, or of Najoma's people).

Will the Soviet advisers, who are still there despite U.S. warnings two weeks ago (there are six of them opposite Mavinga and even more in Cuito), be gone within a month? Nothing can be deduced from their presence, considering that since they are surrounded and cut off from their rear, they could not have left in any case. Are the Cubans determined to tear up the New York accord, which has prohibited them from crossing the 13th parallel (the Benguela Railroad line) since October, or are they venturing across in such small numbers only to enable their revisionist comrades and the "stone-agers" in Luanda to save face? Savimbi has learned at least one thing from his Chinese teachers—whose art of revolutionary warfare is the only thing about them that he has ever admired—and that is never to leave anything to chance or entrust it to one's most constant allies.

Cubans on Tiptoes

Angolan and Cuban officials are scheduled to meet in Luanda next Monday to harmonize their positions on

withdrawal of the Cuban contingent from Angola. This was announced yesterday by the Angolan Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Luanda.

The Cuban withdrawal was suspended last 25 January after four Cuban soldiers were killed by rebels fighting for the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA). Havana announced at the time that resumption of its contingent's withdrawal would depend on the cessation of all military action against its troops. Before the withdrawal was suspended, 31,750 Cuban soldiers stationed in Angola had been repatriated under the terms of a tripartite agreement between Cuba, Angola, and South Africa. Fewer than 20,000 Cuban military remain in Angola, and theoretically, they are based north of the 13th parallel. UNITA accuses them, however, of participating in the fighting in the southern part of the country.

A tripartite meeting by the signers of the New York accord concerning withdrawal of the Cuban troops is scheduled to take place this March, according to reliable sources in Luanda. The date of that meeting has not yet been set, but according to the same source, it must be held before 23 March, the date of the proclamation of Namibia's independence.

Footnotes

1. Each of those groups (12 BMP-1's and 5 tanks) is accompanied by a brigade equipped with 11 tanks of its own, meaning that there are 900 men and 28 armored vehicles for each unit. Half of that materiel has been destroyed. The heavy losses in men are explained primarily by the very high vulnerability of an infantry that is confined in armored personnel carriers offering no real protection—quite the contrary—in that open terrain.

2. Meaning that we have two more interviews with men risen from the dead to our credit following the one that took place last spring with Tito Chitundi. He had been decreed the victim of a purge, but today he leads the guerrilla movement around Luanda.

3. Farther west, in the Lubango (formerly Sa da Bandeira) region, the Portuguese successfully cultivated vineyards, olive trees, wheat, and other crops.

* Military Situation in Southeast 'Confusing'

90EF0282C Lisbon EXPRESSO in Portuguese
24 Feb 90 p 1

[Text] This week UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] has succeeded in giving proof of an unexpected conventional warfare capability in ferociously counterattacking FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] forces, isolating and eliminating tactical groups that had deeply infiltrated in the direction of Jamba and putting the governmental forces in serious difficulty.

Diplomatic sources in Lisbon told EXPRESSO that the situation around Mavinga "is extremely confusing. No

one really knows who is there, but it does not seem to be the FAPLAs." The same informant added that fighting continues in the region, where government supply lines have faced "extreme difficulty" in arriving. According to a UNITA military information source, the situation was no clearer Thursday because "the FAPLA's offensive had not yet been completely repulsed, although they are in an extremely difficult position."

Meanwhile, Soviet-made airplanes carrying troops and war materiel are steadily arriving at Cuito Cuanavale, at the same time that Kamina, in Zaire, and Jamba are receiving airplanes operated by the CIA [Central Intelligence Agency], with materiel for UNITA. According to a source close to the rebel movement, Americans have participated, "sometimes in situations of extreme risk, in materiel and fuel transport operations almost within the theater of war." Mark Mansfield, a CIA spokesman, refused comment on these allegations, telling EXPRESSO that it is the "Agency's policy not to comment on this type of activity." In turn, a spokesman for the Department of State limited himself to restating U.S. support for UNITA, and also refusing comment on the allegations, but emphasizing that Washington "had appealed for a cease-fire and for negotiations through Mobutu's mediation. We have spoken with the Soviets and we believe that they also support this position."

American Assistance in Force

At an internal level, some sources believe that Jose Eduardo dos Santos' position will not be particularly affected if the defeat is confirmed, since he "has limited himself to agreeing to a FAPLA military operation requested of him by the Party's political bureau."

However, Western diplomats do not discard the possibility that "heads might roll."

Following an emergency meeting of the political bureau shortly before the 21st, FAPLA military chiefs proceeded Wednesday to the south, presumably to Cuito Cuanavale. At this meeting, according to information that was not possible to confirm in Luanda, there was "agitated discussion" on the military's secrecy surrounding its operations.

At that time some MPLA leaders showed surprise at the South African inactivity and great concern for the unexpected massive American rearming of UNITA. "The budget was drained and there were orders to go to the 'blue sack' (of the White House) and help UNITA," said a source close to UNITA.

"At first, UNITA understood that the 'Last Assault' would be an operation for domestic consumption, and as a result they did not sufficiently analyze it," said the same source.

But the great danger, he added, is that Savimbi, feeling militarily and politically strong at the success achieved by his forces, "resupplied hurriedly and in force by the United States, wants now to retaliate strongly. His troops

have always had to operate on the defensive, and now he could compensate by switching to the offensive."

Community sources this week showed great apprehension about the mandate and stance of FAPLA Chief of Staff [CEMGFA] Antonio dos Santos Franca "Ndalú," following a possible defeat or tactical retreat of his forces.

Fear of 'Renamoization'

Ndalú "crosses the bridge" between the group around the President and the hard-line sector, they said, in addition to having presided over the commission negotiating with UNITA in Zaire. In his capacity as CEMGFA, he was opposed to an air attack on Jamba for fear of a "Renamoization" [referring to Renamo, Mozambican National Resistance] of Angola, and stamped on this offensive the philosophy that it would only make sense if its objective was to gain negotiating positions.

Diplomatic sources had therefore already shown concern for what they considered the apparent "willingness of Savimbi to 'Renamoize' Angola," seeing as an indication "the extremely tense psychological situation in Luanda, and the sense of insecurity, instability and disquiet, not only among the Angolan population in Luanda but also among foreigners, as a result of systematic cuts of electricity and water."

After the beginning of the offensive in the south, the UNITA attacks in Uíge intensified and the situation on the Lunda deteriorated, where some days ago three Portuguese died who worked for the Portuguese Enterprise Society (SPE), connected with the State Investments and Participation Society (IPE), which is cooperating with Diamang, the Angolan state diamond mine.

According to Portuguese military analysts, "FAPLA badly underestimated UNITA's capabilities and were too optimistic in their reading of the military situation," in addition to having faced great logistical difficulties. "No one knows why the logistics failed, by aerial means from Menongue and land columns from Cuito," said a diplomatic source.

A UNITA source said meanwhile that "some land columns succeeded in advancing, even departing from Menongue."

Apparently the air force was fatigued, "since we have few pilots, and those that we have were kept busy for a long time in continuous attacks."

There is fear in diplomatic circles that the Angolan Air Force will nevertheless make an attack of pure retaliation against Jamba, "because the young colonels do not want to 'lose face,' and above all, 'heads' are expected 'to roll' in Luanda."

* Faltering Trade With Zimbabwe Discussed

34000439A Harare THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN ECONOMIST in English Dec 89-Jan 90 pp 31-32

[Text] Trade should be flourishing between Angola and Zimbabwe—if only the barriers could come down.

Angola has long been isolated in trading terms from the rest of the region by its links with Portugal inherited from the colonial era and its 14-year-old war with the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) rebels. This isolation has not yet been reversed by the work of the Southern African Development Coordinating Conference (SADCC). Angola has significant trade ties only with Zimbabwe and these have been fast eroding in recent years.

Despite a commercial agreement signed between the Zimbabwean and Angolan governments in 1982, trade between the two countries (which flows in only one direction—from Zimbabwe to Angola) fell off rapidly after 1985. Zimbabwean exports to Angola then stood at US\$9.9 million. By 1988 they had been reduced to US\$2.1 million; mainly tobacco, cotton and maize.

Clearly, UNITA, by cutting road and rail links with Zambia and Zimbabwe, has been instrumental in limiting the volume of trade, but there do seem to be institutional barriers as well, that the two countries are striving to overcome. Most importantly a satisfactory payments system has yet to be set up between the National Bank of Angola (BNA) and the Zimbabwe Reserve Bank (ZRB).

The BNA has been trying to arrange a line of credit or some other form of financing with ZRB but has encountered a number of obstacles. Angola's charge d'affaires in Harare, Mr Jose Augusto Prata told the SOUTHERN AFRICAN ECONOMIST, "At present some discrepancies exist with regard to the collateral deposit to be effected by the BNA to guarantee payment and in respect of the repayment period. If this obstacle is overcome, and we have reason to believe that it certainly will be, we feel sure that there will be a significant rise in the volume of trade between the two countries."

For some Zimbabwean exporters, the villain of the piece is unquestionably the ZRB. At a Confederation of Zimbabwean Industries seminar in July, Mr George Geasley, of National Blankets, said his company had sought the assistance of the Reserve Bank over the payments problem over the last two years with only negative responses. "There's no flexibility," Mr Geasley said, "our company has lost millions, literally millions in exports to Angola."

The Angolans are particularly keen to reverse the downward trend in bilateral trade. To this end they set up a branch of their new Overseas Business Corporation (OBC) in Harare last year. The OBC branch is now predicting a rise in trade volume between the two countries to US\$3.0 million.

Angola is looking to export its imports from Zimbabwe and the rest of the SADCC region to include beans, sugar, tea, farm implements, pharmaceutical products, disinfectants, seeds and frozen meat. In return Angola is offering on the regional market, 10,000 tones of salt per month, fresh and dried fish, gypsum and clinker aggregate. In the medium term, the Angolans hope to add to this list quartz, cement, sisal, cowhide, and of course, crude oil and its derivatives.

With most of the land-links cut by the UNITA insurgency, trade between Angola and its SADCC partners is by sea and, at best, erratic. But, Mr Prata promises, once shipment volumes can be increased, "transportation by sea will most certainly be established on a regular basis."

Both countries are now working to set up a joint commission to put some flesh on the bones of the 1982 agreement and to establish a lasting arrangement between the two central banks to remove some of the more unnecessary constraints on trade. If trade between the two countries takes off, Mr Prata hopes the cue will be taken by other SADCC members, to bring what is potentially SADCC's trading giant genuinely within the SADCC commercial sphere.

But the two countries seem to be biding their time and not to be in any hurry to conclude the agreement for the setting up of the joint commission which would form the basis for all future trade relationships between the two countries. After a seven-year wait Zimbabwe has just signed the engagement. But Angola has still to sign it apparently because the Peoples Assembly's approval has not been secured yet.

The food for thought is that it should ever be possible for two countries which are so close politically to have as little to do with each other trade-wise, in this tenth year of their common ownership of SADCC.

* Efforts To Reform Financial System Noted

34000439B Harare THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN ECONOMIST in English Dec 89-Jan 90 pp 23, 25

[Text] Angola has a simple and undiversified financial system which it is now trying to reform as part of the Saneamento Economico e Financeiro (economic and financial restructuring programme, or SEF for short). At present there are two banks with branches spread round the country. The more important is the Banco Nacional de Angola (BNA), which operates as the country's central bank and also, until very recently, as the only commercial bank. It is the only body entitled to hold foreign exchange and handles all—official—foreign exchange dealings.

The other bank, the Banco Popular de Angola (BPA), was until very recently a deposit-taking bank which itself deposited its money with BNA. As part of the financial reforms, BPA has now been authorized to make short-term loans to small enterprises—but only up to a limit of

20 percent of its demand deposits (those withdrawable on demand). The BNA will therefore continue to be by far the main bank.

Before the SEF, the BNA was the only source of credit and it remains in that position so far as most enterprises are concerned. The great bulk of its loans are to the government and state enterprises. Whenever government expenditures exceed revenues, BNA provides a loan for an indefinite period. On the other hand, its loans to enterprises are almost entirely short-term (not more than 180 days). There have been a few exceptions for high-priority enterprises such as the Benguela railway.

BNA's interest rates on its loans to enterprises are set administratively. The current interest rate structure, ranging from 8.5 percent on loans up to 180 days to 10 percent on those between one and five years (and then, oddly, down to 8 percent again for loans between five and ten years) has not changed since independence in 1975.

BP takes deposits from individuals and some organizations. Demand deposits pay no interest but time deposits pay 4 percent if notice of between six months and a year has to be given, or 6 percent if the notice is more than a year. BPA faces the difficulty that the people are not accustomed to using banks for savings. Some potential depositors may also worry that they may be asked how they obtained the funds.

The SEF envisages a restructuring of the finances of public enterprises by identifying their arrears to the BNA and replacing them with bonds, with the intention of clearing bad and doubtful debts from the books of the bank. Interest rates on both deposits and loans are then to be increased. The SEF envisages more competition and more flexibility in the banking system: it is even possible that other banks could be established.

Specifically, the BNA is being reorganized so that its central and commercial banking functions will be administratively separated into different departments. Legislation has been passed to allow firms to sell their securities direct to other firms as an alternative source of credit. The BNA is supposed to start providing medium and long-term loans to enterprises for investment, while it will also, according to the SEF, become more independent from the government in its credit decisions. In the longer term, credit is supposed to be allocated more on the basis of interest rates and less on the basis of administrative rules.

All in all, it could be said that Angola has a long way to go before it has anything resembling a modern banking system. If the proposals in the SEF are carried into effect, that would be a start. Meanwhile, with the kwanza's official value wildly out of line with its purchasing power, what goes on in the official sector has a somewhat academic air about it, especially when what goes up must come down.

*** Drought Threatens 2.6 Million With Famine**

90EF0282A Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese
16 Feb 90 p 8

[Text] Angolan authorities warned Wednesday that some 2.6 million people are threatened by hunger in the central and southern regions of the country, as a result of the drought and war over the past 15 years.

Angolan officials stated that the country urgently needs 300,000 tons of food aid because of the lack of rain last year.

The government has already alerted the United Nations and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) about the food situation, which could worsen this year.

Support in the way of food goods donated by the international community has not arrived to the needy because of the war carried out by UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] and supported by the United States.

The provinces most seriously affected are Nimibe, Hulia and Cunene, in the south of Angola.

Botswana**President Masire, Delegation Return From Namibia**

MB2203142090 Gaborone Domestic Service
in English 1110 GMT 22 Mar 90

[Text] The president, Dr. Quett Masire, and the first lady, Mrs. Gladys Masire, returned to Gaborone today from Windhoek, where they attended celebrations to mark Namibia's independence after 75 years of South African rule. (They) were met at the Sir Seretse Khama Airport by the vice president, Mr. Peter Mmusi, cabinet ministers, and senior government officials. He inspected a guard of honor mounted by members of the Botswana Defense Force.

Also back is the Minister for External Affairs, Dr. Gaositwe Chiepe, cabinet ministers, and other dignitaries who formed part of the Botswana delegation to Namibia.

Dr. Masire attended overnight celebrations on Tuesday [20 March] at the independence stadium in Windhoek where Mr. Sam Nujoma was sworn in as president. He also attended a dinner for foreign dignitaries hosted by the former South African administrator general, Mr. Louis Pienaar.

During their stay in Namibia, the Botswana delegation had an opportunity to hold meetings with their Namibian counterparts. The meeting culminated in the establishment of diplomatic relations between Botswana and Namibia. Botswana has already bought property to cater for its diplomatic staff.

Comoros**President Djohar Forms New Government 22 Mar**

EA2303083590 Moroni Domestic Service in French
1700 GMT 22 Mar 90

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Now, here is the decree [word indistinct] 90024 of the president of the Republic appointing the members of the new government. The president of the Republic decrees:

Article one: As of the date of the signing of the present decree, the Government of the Federal Islamic Republic of the Comoros is formed as follows:

Minister of State in Charge of Economy and Commerce	Said Ali Kemal
Minister of State in Charge of Transport, Tourism, and Immigration	(Said Ali Yussuf)
Minister of Equipment, Environment, Town Planning, Housing, Posts, and Telecommunications	(Said Hasan)
Minister of Production, Industry, and Crafts	Ali Mroudjae
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation	Dr. (Mutara Maishi)
Minister Delegate at the Presidency in Charge of Finance and Budget	[name indistinct]
Minister of Health and Population	Mohamed Taki
[passage indistinct]	

New Cabinet 'Excludes Opponents'

EA2303122690 London BBC World Service in English
1830 GMT 22 Mar 90

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The Islamic Republic of the Comoros has just announced the appointment of a new cabinet under the direction of the new president, Said Mohamed Djohar. There was speculation in the last month, following a difficult series of elections in the Comoros, about whether President Djohar would include any of his opponents in the coalition government. On the line to the Comoros, Timothy Arcot asked Abdul Shaykh Rabud when the new government was announced:

[Begin recording] [Rabud] The new government was just named half an hour ago by the president, Said Mohamed Djohar, two days after being sworn in as the second president of the Federal Islamic Republic of the Comoros.

[Arcot] Now, following these two rounds of elections in the last couple of week, Djohar faced a large number of opponents. Has he included any of them in a new government?

[Rabud] No, Said Mohamed Djohar has included none of the opponents. He just took the four political parties which supported him during the second round of the elections.

[Arcot] So that means that his arch opponent, Mohamed Taki, has been let out in the cold, does it?

[Rabud] Yes, Mohamed Taki is out of the cabinet and he is not actually in the country at the moment.

[Arcot] So how is the news being received in Moroni today?

[Rabud] Well, everybody was waiting for the new government tomorrow. But it was a surprise that it was announced today. Actually, after the elections, everybody was waiting for the new government. And to many, it is a surprise because most of the ministers are political leaders and who, at one time or the other, worked as ministers under the government of Ahmed Abdallah Abderamane. And you have only two or three new faces.
[end recording]

Mauritius

* Analysis: Changes in RSA, Effects on Economy

90EF0288A Port Louis 5-PLUS in French
16-22 Feb 90 p 12

[Article by Jean-Pierre Catherine: "Mandela: Reactions to His Release"]

[Text] Now that the uproar has died down and the historic black leader Nelson Mandela has been released, Mauritius is analyzing the economic fallout of the changes that are going to take place in [the Republic of] South Africa [RSA]. Opinions vary. Some people see in our South African neighbors a vast market open to us. Others see the shadow of a threat emerging on the horizon, while still others think that since the psychological barrier that affected trade between the two countries is now gone, there is no reason not to normalize everything. Two reactions go even further: that of Michael Glover, minister of youth, sports, and tourism; and that of Michel de Senneville, formerly a leader in the promotion of foreign and particularly South African investment in Mauritius.

With the recent events that have taken place in South Africa many people expect that Mauritius will be among the first countries to feel the consequences. Thus, the tourism sector promises to make a new start with the enormous potential represented by the black population of South Africa. Minister of Tourism Michael Glover, who this week visited the Pullman Hotel in Grand-Baie, the newest jewel of our hotel industry, stated that he was satisfied with the service offered but did not hide his concern over the tourist crisis that this country must face. He said: "If things continue at this rate, hundreds

of rooms will remain empty. Clearly, the visit to Mauritius of black South African tourists would help us enormously. However, I see no difference between a black or white tourist, provided that he spends his money."

Minister of Tourism Glover added that his ministry was not considering adopting a new tourist strategy for this new market. He said: "South Africa will still experience more political unrest. I do not think that there will be any immediate increase in the number of tourists coming from South Africa. For the moment our tourism promotion campaign in that country will remain unchanged. If the Mauritian Government should ever consider opening a tourist bureau in South Africa, it would be after the complete dismantling of the system of apartheid."

For his part, Michel de Senneville carefully avoided becoming overwhelmed by euphoria. Although he considers that the action taken recently in South Africa made it possible to see a light of hope for the international community, and even though he tends to consider President De Klerk as the Gorbachev of the Indian Ocean, Michel de Senneville thinks that the system of apartheid will be dismantled in the near future. Quite to the contrary, he thinks that by maintaining the present, unequal arrangements in the field of education the South African authorities are moving in the opposite direction.

He stated: "It is in the field of education that things should begin to change in South Africa. Unfortunately, nothing has been done to attack the evil at its roots. Negotiations are going to be difficult, and it is certainly not going to be easy to find a solution in view of the absence of a 'bridge of trust' between the parties concerned." He also said that Mauritius should play a preponderant role in the changes that are going to take place in South Africa.

On the other hand, Michel de Senneville could not avoid mentioning the new threat to the Mauritian free trade zone if South Africa decided to set up free trade zones in the black townships. He added: "South Africa is an immense reservoir of cheap labor. With the investment code in force in that country, everything is moving very quickly. Furthermore, that country has very modern infrastructure. That could be a threat for the Mauritian and Malagasy free trade zones."

On the other hand, some businessmen think that in the very near future Mauritius will certainly be able to import all of the products it needs from South Africa instead of importing them from Europe or Australia at a prohibitive cost, as is currently the case. In the same circles it is not believed that South Africa is going to set up free trade zones everywhere, particularly since South Africa does not have the access enjoyed by Mauritius for its products on the European market.

* Personnel Changes Within SMF Discussed

90EF0288C Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French
13 Feb 90 pp 1, 4

[Article by Harish Chundunsing: "Major Dushyant Reesaul Appointed Deputy Commander of Special Mobile Force"]

[Text] Important changes took place within the police force and the Special Mobile Force (SMF) this week.

The most important change concerns the SMF, where Lieutenant Colonel Nicol Seeboruth, who was acting as deputy commanding officer (DCO), turned over his duties to Major Dushyant Reesaul. Lieutenant Colonel Seeboruth was transferred to Port Louis (South), where he will replace Superintendent Ben Marie. In turn, Superintendent Ben Marie has been chosen to replace Superintendent Gawtan Choychoo at Flacq.

Superintendent Gawtan Choychoo will replace Superintendent Abdool Wahab Bhudye at Plaines Wilhelms/Riviere Noire. Bhudye has been appointed to assist ACP [expansion unknown] Harold Munso in the Special Supporting Unit.

Elsewhere, Superintendent Manicon Soopayah, who has been assigned to the central office of the CID [Criminal Investigations Department], will be making a "come back" at Curepipe, the general headquarters of the upper Plaines Wilhelms area. Soopayah replaces Superintendent Abdool Raouf Sookia, who is on sick leave.

Major Reesaul joined the police force as a "cadet inspector." After many years in the SMF, he was transferred in May 1989 to the Very Important Persons' Security Unit (VIPSU) to assist Juggip Narain Taimni, an Indian officer assigned as security adviser, in organizing this newly formed unit.

Major Reesaul resumed his position in the SMF near the end of 1989.

* PMSD/PT/CAM/PSM Alliance Proposed

90EF0274C Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French
12 Feb 90 p 4

[Article by Raj Gowrea: "Duval Pins Hopes on PMSD Alliance with FT, CAM and PSM in Next Elections"]

[Text] Withdrawal of the Labor Party [PT] from the Alliance, and the resulting formation of an alliance including the PMSD [Mauritian Social Democratic Party], the CAM [Muslim Action Committee] and Boodhoo's PSM [Mauritian Socialist Party], will ensure victory for the unbeatable "quartet" in the next general elections. That was the main theme yesterday of remarks by the PMSD's leader, Sir Gaetan Duval, at a meeting of "blues" at the Beau-Bassin Administration Center to kick off the campaign to mobilize supporters to attend the upcoming 3 March mass meeting.

Duval believes such an alliance would be able to win big, because all the parties making it up are distinguished by their profound respect for "freedom and democracy." He said he has good reasons to be hopeful, for history has shown that in dark and difficult moments in the past when democracy was in danger, the PMSD and the PT had closed ranks to save the country. As an example to support his contention, he cited the pre-election events of 1983.

But the PMSD leader added that the MMM [Mauritian Militant Movement] is not an ally that "inspires confidence." He demonstrated his hostility to the MMM by "correcting" remarks expressed earlier by Mr. Alan Driver, the party president, who had called on all Mauritians regardless of political affinity—MMM members included—to attend the PMSD rally on 3 March at Champ-de-Mars. Duval replied: "I am embarrassed for Alan Driver, but I certainly don't want to see the MMM there."

Reversing his tactics, Duval said it is imperative to safeguard democracy to spare the country the agony of falling victim to a succession of coups. In that connection, he called on all members of parliament "who have a political past and a political future," including those in the government majority, to urge moderation by leaders of the regime.

Also, the leader of the "blues" invited his supporters to attend various political meetings, particularly those in Quatre-Bornes and Curepipe, that are scheduled to lead up to the 3 March rally at Champ-de-Mars.

The delegations also heard speeches by other PMSD leaders, including Nanda Kistnen, Alan Driver and [Paul] Chasteau.

* Duval Demands Dissolution of NIU

90EF0274A Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French
12 Feb 90 p 4

[Article by Habib Mosaheb: "PMSD Demands Dissolution of NIU"]

[Text] The PMSD [Mauritian Social Democratic Party] is demanding dissolution of the NIU (National Intelligence Unit), which it accuses of infringing on privacy and civil liberties. The demand was made during a rally at Trou-d'Eau Douce on Wednesday.

The leader of the "blues," Sir Gaetan Duval, said NIU's activities are having a corrosive effect on democracy and freedom in Mauritius.

Duval alleged that NIU agents had met with Plaine-Verte officials to "invite" them to attend a rally that the MSM [Mauritian Socialist Movement] held in the region last Tuesday.

The PMSD leader spoke at length about what he called Prime Minister Jugnauth Anerood's "abusive" way of treating opponents and the public in general.

As examples, he mentioned commissions of inquiry set up for purely political ends, mainly to "finish off" certain politicians in the opposition. The steady stream of price increases is crushing the people and lining the pockets of a small group of businessmen, he added.

"Jugnauth wants to finish me off psychologically. But he can't do it, because the people are with me," he said. Duval said he was not afraid of the commissions of inquiry or being brought into court at some point in connection with the Azor Adelaide affair.

"If they ever put me away, don't start fighting with your neighbors, don't destroy the country, but demonstrate against the government and the police," said Duval to his supporters.

The PMSD leader also said he believes the PT [Labor Party] will leave the government long before the end of its term and general elections will be held sometime in 1991.

"We can pay Jugnauth back for pushing us voters around," said Duval, urging people to attend a national rally his party will hold on 3 March at Champ-de-Mars. The other speakers, including Paul Chasteau, Maurice Allet, and Dr. Khodabaccus, all denounced what they called "police brutality," the arrogance of the prime minister, the inability of the MMM [Mauritian Militant Movement] to play its opposition role, the effort by the "mauves" to conclude an alliance with the MSM, inflation, the increased cost of municipal services, etc.

The PMSD also demanded repeal of "GN-114," saying that Catholic authorities are perfectly entitled to recruit teachers for the schools they run.

The "blues" said they want to see Mauritius reestablish its sovereignty over Diego Garcia. Until then, the Mauritian Government should insist that the United States pay 30 to 40 million rupees per year for its use, Mr. Chasteau said.

The PMSD took up the same themes at Beau-Bassin yesterday, and the principal speakers demanded the resignation of Mr. Regis Finette, who was only elected thanks to the PMSD's help, according to Mr. H. Duval.

* Soviet Officers Arrive To Train NCG

90EF0274B Port Louis L'EXPRESS in French
20 Jan 90 p 7

[Article: "Twelve Soviet Officers Detailed to NCG for a Year"; italicized passages published in English]

[Text] A dozen Soviet maritime defense force officers will lend a supporting hand to the Mauritian coast guard for a period of three to 12 months starting today. The officers are here to provide operational training to the Mauritian coast guard and to supervise maintenance of the two new patrol boats the USSR officially turned over to Mauritian authorities yesterday morning (see Friday edition of L'EXPRESS).

The prime minister, Sir Anerood Jugnauth, made the announcement yesterday morning following a ceremony in which the Soviet ambassador to Mauritius, Mr. Yuri Kirichenko, presented the two patrol boats to Mauritius.

Among those in attendance at the ceremony held Friday morning at the new pier, were a number of ministers and deputy ministers and members of the diplomatic corps.

Jugnauth said it was generous of the government of the Soviet Union to provide the two patrol boats, christened "Rescuer" and "Retriever," respectively, "without any constraint or condition attached."

He noted that with the acquisition of these two new patrol boats, Mauritius will be able to increase surveillance of its exclusive economic zone (EEZ) and the patrolling of Agalega, St Brandon.

He added that the *National Coast Guard* (NCG) has an important role to play in rescue and anti-contraband operations at sea. "Besides, NCG participates in pollution control by taking, for example, actions against any ship that is seen draining its oil in the open sea."

Jugnauth indicated there is an increasing awareness of the sea's resources and strategic potential. "It is consequently a priority to maintain the sovereignty of Mauritius on its 1.8 million square kilometers of EEZ and to chase trespassers and poachers from those areas of that zone that they are attempting to plunder."

The Soviet ambassador, Mr. Kirichenko, said every country needs to maintain surveillance over its EEC. He said he was happy that his country was able to make a contribution to the security of Mauritian territorial waters.

He also expressed hope that the gift of the two patrol boats would strengthen the friendly ties between the USSR and Mauritius.

Authorities at the Russian Embassy in Mauritius said the two patrol boats (including spare parts) cost in the neighborhood of 150 million rupees (7.3 million rubles). A Soviet Embassy official told L'EXPRESS that a ruble is equal to 20 rupees, but L'EXPRESS, which asked currency conversion specialists in local banks for information on the current exchange rate, was told one ruble is worth nine rupees.

Each of the patrol boats is equipped with two anti-aircraft guns capable of hitting a plane at an altitude of 1,500 meters or an enemy boat at a distance of 2,000 meters. The automatic guns fire 1,000 rounds per minute. The boats are 22.5 meters long and 4.5 meters wide; they have a maximum speed of 30 knots.

This type of patrol boat is currently used in a dozen or so Third World countries, including the Seychelles.

*** Ties to Madagascar Said To Aid Trafficking**

90EF0299E Victoria SEYCHELLES NATION
in French 16 Feb 90 p 3

[Article: "The Malagasy Drug Connection"]

[Text] John Barrett, an official in the East Africa and Indian Ocean branch of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Authority [as published], has just completed a visit to Madagascar. Officially, the purpose of the visit was to help Mr. Barrett identify ways in which Washington could get involved in the war against drug trafficking in the region. According to a report received by LA LETTRE DE L'OCEAN INDIEN, the United States also wanted to investigate persistent rumors of high-level official involvement in drug trafficking.

Until several weeks ago [line dropped] the influential Catholic weekly LAKROA, Madagascar did not acknowledge the existence of a drug trafficking problem. Then drugs were found on several Air Madagascar flights. The DGID [General Directorate of Information and Documentation], the regime's political police, investigated a shipment to Marseilles that was found to contain suitcases filled with cannabis (Indian hemp). But investigators came up emptyhanded.

In reality, this trafficking may be organized by important figures in Didier Ratsiraka's regime, or at least benefit from their protection. It is also likely that better relations between Madagascar and Mauritius have made it possible to divert to Madagascar some of the trafficking in hard drugs coming from southeast Asia.

*** Tourist Office in Japan; Plans for Spain**

90EF0299D Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French
17 Feb 90 p 6

[Article by Raj Gowrea: "Mauritian Tourist Office in Tokyo"]

[Text] Mauritius will have an anchor-point in Japan with the opening of an official tourism office in Tokyo, capital of the land of the rising sun. The Japanese and Spanish markets will be the primary targets of a new Mauritian tourism campaign in the second half of the year, although current efforts aimed at the traditional markets in the major European capitals will also continue.

Yesterday the minister of tourism, youth and sports, Mr. Michael Glover, confirmed plans for establishing the new tourist office in Japan, which could open up about the same time as the new office in Madrid. Glover announced plans for a ministerial branch office in the Spanish capital following his participation in the Madrid exposition last January.

Nevertheless, new budgetary allocations will be required to open a Madrid branch office, so the Ministry of Tourism may be able to kill two birds with one stone by

also laying the groundwork for cultivating the Japanese market, which Mr Glover, said has "considerable potential."

Officials in the ministry are optimistic about prospects for making inroads in the Japanese market. Already, with the establishment of the new air link between Mauritius and Hong Kong—which is operated by Air Mauritius, the national airline—Japanese tourism is beginning to increase; but without a well-planned and permanent promotion campaign, hopes for a bigger share of this lucrative market could be jeopardized.

Japanese tourists demand high-quality facilities; they are also very fastidious when it comes to cuisine and certain other traditions. Studies on Japanese tourists always make reference to the important role tradition plays in their touristic preferences. The upcoming opening of the Blue Sun Hotel (Mauritius, Limited) in the northern part of the country will doubtless fill an important gap in Mauritius's tourist infrastructure. The 300-million-rupee facility, which has 200 rooms (including nine suites), is being built with the help of Japanese financing.

*** Nissan Asked To Share Technical Know-How**

90EF0299B Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French
16 Feb 90 pp 1, 4

[Article by Leon Baya: "Technology Transfer: Mauritius Asks Japan To Share Its Know-How"; italicized passages published in English]

[Text] The minister of public works, Mr. Ramdath Jadoo, has asked Japan to share its technical know-how with African countries, in the same way it has done so with certain countries of southeast Asia. The minister's remarks came this morning at the opening of the third conference of African Nissan agents.

Mr. Jadoo made his appeal to the Japanese multinational auto firm during a discussion of efforts being made by the Mauritian private sector to modernize its equipment and to introduce advanced technology. The minister singled out ABC Motors Company, a Nissan agency in Mauritius, which he said has put together a "nice blend of Japanese technology with local craft" in the manufacture of bodies for various types of vehicles (buses, vans, and two-door sedans), not only for the local market but also for export to African countries. Other companies are exporting buses assembled completely in Mauritius to countries of the region.

Japan has the technological lead in many domains, the minister said. "And compared to the technological giant Japan has grown to be, we may consider ourselves but beginners," he added to explain why Mauritius wants to see Japan share its know-how with less fortunate nations.

The public works minister also emphasized the importance to Mauritius of regional cooperation. Expressing his hope for intensified cooperation among the African

countries, he said the Indian Ocean should be considered *"as a link rather than an obstacle in the development of our relations with continental Africa and with the outlying islands."* Only by joining forces can these countries reach their socio-economic objectives.

Mr. Hideo Nagafuchi, the Nissan group's Africa director, said he is convinced the African market has unlimited potential, owing to its abundant natural resources and immense population. Mr. Nagafuchi said that over the medium term the multinational is going to pursue a more aggressive policy than in the past, when it was just trying to stay afloat. "We must set our sights high so as to take maximum advantage of current trends."

In terms of domestic sales (in Japan), Nissan sold 1,319,000 units [vehicles] in 1988, a 13.7-percent increase over the previous year. For 1990 the company projects domestic sales of 1.4 million units and export sales of 1 million. In addition, overseas production—in the United States, England, and elsewhere—will increase to 780,000 units.

Nissan is pleased with its overall position in the automobile industry: worldwide production was 48 million units in 1988, whereas in 1989 Nissan's output was 3 million.

According to Mr. Nagafuchi, sales in Mauritius have increased faster than in Africa as a whole. "We sold about 500 vehicles in Mauritius in 1989, and we think we are leading the 'hit parade.' Our goal is a 50-percent increase over the course of the decade," he told LE MAURICIEN.

*** Sweden To Receive Preferential Trade Status**

90EF0288D Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French
14 Feb 90 pp 1, 8

[Article by Leon Baya: "Greater Trade Between Mauritius and Sweden"]

[Text] The decision by the Mauritian Government to grant Sweden preferential status for customs purposes will promote new growth in the trade between the two countries. This is the personal view of Derek Taylor, the honorary Swedish consul in Mauritius.

Taylor said that, beyond its purely trade aspect, this decision should be placed in the context of the strengthening of economic relations between Stockholm and Port Louis.

The Swedish firm Ericsson has just won a contract for one of the segments of the project for the development of the telephone network. The Swedish Government corporation "IMOD" [expansion unknown] is helping the Mauritian firm MEDIA [Mauritius Export Development and Investment Authority] in its campaign in Sweden for the promotion of Mauritian exports and Swedish investment in Mauritius. The Swedish tourist market is being explored by the Air Mauritius Company, while Swedish

technicians are working in the Overseas Telecommunications Services Company of Mauritius.

Taylor said: "The Mauritian Government, in fact, reacted positively to the decision by the Swedish authorities to raise the quotas on Mauritian textile exports." The abolition of the nontariff barriers to the entry of our textile products into Sweden has led to a spectacular increase in our exports, whose value during the period from January through September 1989 rose to 54 million Mauritian rupees, or 65 percent more than exports for the entire year of 1988, which itself recorded an increase of 371 percent in our exports.

Taylor indicated: "It was after the abolition of the textile quotas that I went to the Mauritian Government to ask whether there was a possibility of raising the status of Sweden. Tord Magnuson, the honorary consul of Mauritius and representative of Air Mauritius in Stockholm who recently visited Mauritius, also approached the Mauritian Government on this subject."

Although in the view of observers this change in status could be a weighty argument for Minister of Finance Seetanah Lutchmeenaraidoo at the time of his visit to Sweden scheduled in March, there is no doubt that such action could encourage Swedish exports to Mauritius. Under Mauritian customs regulations Sweden has been classed in the category of "General Tariff Countries." It has been in the shadow of the countries of the European Economic Community, as its products have been less competitive because of a higher customs duty. The value of imports from Sweden amounted to 20.4 million rupees in 1987 and leveled off at 20.9 million rupees in 1988. However, a clear increase in the value of imports was recorded during the first nine months of 1989, when imports rose to 25.4 million rupees.

What does Mauritius import from Sweden? The report of the Central Bureau of Statistics on foreign trade in 1989 shows that the principal items imported from Sweden included paper products (about 6 million rupees), machinery and electrical and nonelectrical tools (about 2 million rupees), automobile spare parts (0.5 million rupees), medicines (about 0.6 million rupees), wood products (1.5 million rupees), and chemical products (2.5 million rupees).

It has been said in some commercial circles that the grant of preferential status is not going to result in a great change in the prices of the products mentioned above because in certain cases "general" customs duties are not very high or are nonexistent. These same groups consider that the effects will be felt on other articles.

Well-known for the quality of its products, Sweden is in a position to become an important supplier of Mauritius. For example, in the agricultural sector the import of centrifuges for the sugar industry, tractors, laboratory equipment, and other machinery should be considered in the framework of a policy of modernization and

mechanization. Sweden has made progress in the manufacture of construction equipment, educational materials, generators, motors for boats, and medical equipment and equipment for the treatment of sewage water. The cost of supplying Swedish cement is worth studying, while the import of Volvo and Saab vehicles is a possibility that should not be neglected.

* Nordic Environmental Investment Credit Reported

36390126 Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian
15 Mar 90 p 21

[Unattributed article: "Environmental Credit to Mauritius"]

[Text] The Nordic Investment Bank (NIB) and the Nordic Development Fund (NDF) are participating in a credit of 52.5 million kroner for the financing of an environmental investment program in Mauritius in the Indian Ocean. The loan will finance consultant services and deliveries of environmental technology. The total expense is figured to be 428 million kroner.

* MEDIA To Be Reorganized for 1992

90EF0299C Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French
21 Feb 90 pp 1, 12

[Article by Jacques David: "Restructuring MEDIA"]

[Text] The government will soon undertake a broad restructuring of MEDIA (Mauritius Export Development and Investment Authority) to meet challenges posed by the upcoming establishment of the Unified European Market. MEDIA must identify the needs of Mauritian and overseas manufacturers and be able to respond to the new demands the European market will present beginning in 1993. The plan for the restructuring is already complete, and the government is expected to approve it in the coming days.

The restructuring involves beefing up MEDIA's branch offices in London, Belgium, and Italy, where—thanks to the tireless efforts of our consul, Mr. Renato Catalfamo—Italian manufacturers are increasingly turning to Mauritius.

Launched in 1985, MEDIA has played an enormous role in getting Mauritian manufactured goods on the market in France, Great Britain, Italy, Singapore, Hong Kong, Australia, and Japan; it has also succeeded in getting overseas manufacturers to locate plants in Mauritius. The numerous Mauritian delegations to foreign countries in recent years have focused on promoting investments outside the textile sector. Direct contacts have been established with top industrialists in such fields as electronics, software, jewelry, leather work, plastics, and footwear. Meetings like the "Investment Promotion Forums" have also been held to give manufacturers the chance to discuss possible joint ventures and the possibility of locating manufacturing facilities on Mauritius. To meet the challenge posed by the great changes

expected in Europe over the next two or three years, the Mauritian Government—especially the minister of industry and applied technology, Mr. Clarel Malherbe—wants to give the export development authority fresh impetus, since competition will probably become even more intense after 1993. After meeting with the heads of MEDIA's various European branches, Mr. Malherbe proposed to the government that the authority be completely restructured to enable the country to respond as rapidly and efficiently as possible to the demands of a market that is changing at an astonishing rate.

* Improved Regional Trade Figures Discussed

90EF0288B Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French
19 Feb 90 pp 1, 4

[Article by Leon Baya: "Increase in Trade Between Mauritius and Countries of the Indian Ocean"]

[Text] Trade between Mauritius and its partners in the Indian Ocean Commission [COI] (Reunion, Madagascar, Seychelles, and Comoros) is increasing. The latest statistics confirm this development and indicate that the value of this trade has increased by 15 percent during the period from January to September 1989, compared to the same period in 1988. Trade during this period went up from 290.2 million Mauritian rupees to 332.3 million rupees.

Supporters of regional cooperation will note with satisfaction that, apart from the increase in the value of trade, commercial exchanges between Mauritius and the other four islands in the southwestern part of the Indian Ocean increased as a percentage of the total value of our foreign trade, going up from 1.27 to 1.32 percent. However, this rate is very small when the existing potential for trade is concerned. The eventual reduction or elimination of tariff and nontariff barriers, which is the subject of a study by COI experts, is certainly going to give the necessary stimulus to interisland trade.

An analysis of the statistics reveals that Mauritian imports, on an overall basis, have increased more quickly than its exports, amounting to 66.54 million rupees during the first three quarters of 1989, compared to 46.2 million rupees during the same period in 1988. The figure on the value of imports for the whole year of 1988 (59.7 million rupees) has already been surpassed. Furthermore, as a percentage of total Mauritian imports, the imports from countries belonging to the COI constituted 0.46 percent of total imports during the first nine months of 1989, compared to 0.36 percent of total imports during the same period of 1988.

Mauritian exports rose to 265.8 million rupees, or an increase of 21.8 million rupees. However, as a percentage of total exports, exports to the islands in the region declined, accounting for 2.45 percent of exports, compared to 2.47 percent for the corresponding period of 1988.

Mauritius has a very favorable trade balance with the COI countries. This favorable trade balance went up from 197.8 million rupees to 199.3 million rupees. However, it should be emphasized that Mauritian foreign trade with Madagascar favors that country. Our imports from Madagascar rose to 57.1 million rupees, whereas, our exports amounted to 34.3 million rupees.

Although trade with Madagascar is developing more quickly, the fact remains that Reunion is the major trading partner with Mauritius, purchasing from us 200.7 million rupees during the first nine months of 1989 (down by 1.3 million rupees) and exporting to us 6.3 million rupees. Elsewhere, trade with the Seychelles is increasing, amounting to 16.8 million rupees during the first three quarters of 1989, compared with 10.2 million rupees during the first three quarters of 1988.

Trade Between Southwest Indian Ocean Countries, 1987-1989

Country	1987	1988	1988	1989
			Jan-Sep	Jan-Sep
	Rupees in	Rupees in	Rupees in	Rupees in
	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions
Exports				
Comoros	16	14	10	16.2
Madagascar	16	28	22	34.3
Reunion	266	278	202	200.7
Seychelles	13	13	10	14.6
Total	311	333	244	265.8
Total Exports	11,497	13,465	9,882	10,869
% of Total Exports	2.71	2.47	2.47	2.45
Imports				
Comoros	19	5	4	0.94
Madagascar	37	48	37	57.1
Reunion	3	6	5	6.3
Seychelles	0.5	0.67	0.2	2.2
Total	59.5	59.67	46.2	66.54
Total Imports	13,042	17,460	13,002	14,472
% of Total Imports	0.46	0.34	0.36	0.46

Mozambique

USSR's Shevardnadze Arrives in Maputo 22 Mar

MB2203161690 Maputo Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1400 GMT 22 Mar 90

[Text] USSR Minister of Foreign Affairs Eduard Shevardnadze has just arrived in Maputo for a visit of several hours to Mozambique.

The Soviet foreign minister was welcomed by Pascoal Manuel Mocumbi, his Mozambican counterpart.

Confers With Chissano

MB2203180990 Maputo Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1730 GMT 22 Mar 90

[Text] President Joaquim Chissano this afternoon received USSR Minister of Foreign Affairs Eduard Shevardnadze.

Speaking about Namibia's recent accession to independence, President Joaquim Chissano said the world had

come together to carry out a noble task. The Mozambican head of state added the world must unite again to eliminate apartheid.

In turn, USSR Minister of Foreign Affairs Eduard Shevardnadze said Namibia's independence was a source of joy for that country, for Africa, and for the world at large.

Eduard Shevardnadze arrived in Maputo this afternoon. He met earlier with Mozambican Foreign Minister Pascoal Mocumbi.

Departs Maputo for Harare

MB2203195890 Maputo Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 22 Mar 90

[Text] USSR Minister of Foreign Affairs Eduard Shevardnadze said in Maputo today, quote, we believe there will be peace in Mozambique soon. The Soviet Union is ready to participate in this process, unquote.

The Soviet diplomat also said that during his visit to Maputo, he reviewed Mozambique-USSR cooperation,

particularly in the cultural, technical, and scientific fields. Within this context, the two sides agreed to draw a long term plan to increase bilateral cooperation. Experts from both countries will work on that plan.

The Soviet official said the situation in southern Africa and the issue of national unity in Mozambique were discussed at the talks.

It should be recalled Eduard Shevardnadze was received by President Joaquim Chissano in Maputo today. He also met Pascoal Mocumbi, his Mozambican counterpart.

The Soviet official has left Maputo for Zimbabwe.

President Chissano Returns to Maputo 22 Mar

*MB2203133990 Maputo Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1030 GMT 22 Mar 90*

[Excerpt] Joaquim Chissano has just returned to the country's capital from Namibia, where he attended the territory's independence celebrations. Chissano was accompanied by his wife, Foreign Minister Pascoal Mocumbi, and Minister of State Administration Oscar Monteiro. The delegation also included Antonio Hama Thai, chief of General Staff of the Mozambique Armed Forces. [passage omitted]

Mocumbi Says No Namibian Embassy in Near Future

*MB2203201690 Maputo Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1730 GMT 22 Mar 90*

[Text] Foreign Minister Pascoal Manuel Mocumbi has said Mozambique will not have an embassy in Namibia in the short term because of lack of cadres.

The Mozambican official said a diplomatic bureau will be installed in Namibia soon and will be supervised by one of the Mozambican ambassadors to one of the Frontline States.

*** Iranian Ambassador Terms Relations 'Excellent'**

*90EF0278C Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese
10 Feb 90 p 1*

[Text] The ambassador to Mozambique of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Seyyed Davud Salehi Mofred, characterized as excellent the relations of friendship and cooperation between his country and the Peoples Republic of Mozambique. The diplomat spoke at the press conference that he gave Thursday to the news media on the occasion of the eleventh anniversary of the Iranian revolution.

The ambassador disclosed that Mozambican technicians specializing in mineral resources had been trained in Iran under the framework of cooperative relations between the two countries.

Seyyed Mofred reaffirmed Iran's willingness to cooperate with Mozambique with a view to rehabilitating or reconstructing the socioeconomic infrastructure destroyed by the war and natural disasters.

Speaking on the Iran-Iraq war, the diplomat said that under the auspices of the United Nations many rounds of negotiations between the warring states had ended at an impasse. Iranian officials knew the real intention of Iraq, and with the objective of breaking the impasse they announced to the United Nations in November 1989 that Iran could accept the exchange of prisoners of war if that were undertaken simultaneously with an Iraqi withdrawal from the recognized international border.

He also added that world public opinion could have obtained a more positive response from the Iranian initiative made on the basis of paragraph 41 of the report of the secretary general of the United Nations to the Security Council in November 1989, but that there was no response due to the lack of positive and constructive reaction from the Iraqi side.

The Iranian diplomat renewed his government's support for the Mozambican Government's peace initiatives, and manifested his desire to see Mozambique at peace shortly. He also praised President Joaquim Chissano for the manner in which he has led the destinies of the Mozambican nation.

*** Rehabilitation of Pemba Airport Announced**

*90EF0278D Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese
15 Feb 90 p 3*

[Text] The Cabo Delgado provincial government has prioritized for this year, among other plans, improvement of the Pemba airport facilities. Radio Mozambique reported yesterday, adding that the action aims at upgrading the airport for the increased traffic that is currently being recorded.

The plan was supported by participants at the 2nd session of the Cabo Delgado provincial government, which was held recently.

During the event, the need to rehabilitate the urban and interdistrict telecommunications network was also emphasized.

*** Decline in Diversion of Emergency Goods Noted**

*90EF0278B Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese
16 Feb 90 p 1*

[Text] Interim Coordinator of the National Executive Emergency Commission Alfredo Gamito said yesterday in Maputo that in the last six months there has been a significant reduction in illegal practices leading to the diversion of emergency goods donated by the international community, particularly in the port of Maputo and in the distribution systems of the Department for the Prevention and Control of Natural Disasters (DPCCN).

Speaking at a press conference given to representatives of the national news media following the communique by the Council of Ministers on emergency management, which was made public yesterday, Alfredo Gamito revealed that a recent survey made by that sector indicates that of the 66,000 tons of products received during that period, losses were estimated at 2.1 percent, of which 1.63 percent were losses from the time of shipment, the rest occurring in port.

"It is a very significant reduction due to measures taken within that very sector, which makes us very happy," the official stated, attributing this fact to the reorganization of the transport system, internal measures, and better control of entries and exits in the rail and port facilities.

According to Alfredo Gamito, a study was also done in the DPCCN that he termed exhaustive, which showed that losses amounted to approximately 3 percent of a total of 140,000 tons that were received and distributed over the past 6 months.

"The commissions' reports will be channeled to the proper authorities, in this case the police and judicial authorities, for the purpose of identifying and further analyzing the cases," he said.

"It is obvious that there are some people involved and we believe that referring to their names will, first, damage the judicial process, and second will eventually damage the investigative process, which needs to continue and be thoroughly carried out. It is more for that reason that it was decided to publish a communique rather than the report of the investigation," said Alfredo Gamito.

Questioned on how many cases resulted in prison terms, and the level of people involved, Gamito said that 67 cases had been judged, involving workers, cadres and DPCCN directors. The maximum sentence applied was 16 years of prison, in a trial held in Niassa, and the minimum was three months.

"A very sincere opinion: We were convinced that the situation was much more serious, and in fact this investigative commission allowed us to eliminate the wrongs that were occurring right from the start," that authority said.

Alfredo Gamito believed it important to state that the need for the investigative commission was something that the government itself had recognized. According to him, it was a sovereign decision, with no pressures from any donor, to undertake this study. Gamito responded in this way to a question placed by a reporter on the implications that this situation may have on the third emergency appeal.

"That is to say, we have a transparent and open emergency management system. We have an emergency operative committee that meets weekly with all donors, where we always discuss the status of the program, including some acts of robbery and diversion," he said.

The official pointed out that the donors' weak response has two interpretations. One, which according to him is the most important, is the delay in the arrival of the goods.

"The second is that we have a very important donor who, due to reasons internal to that country, did not respond to the appeal. It began to respond around the middle of December. It is a donor that has heavy influence among the other donors. If there is a response at the level of the promises that it made, we will be better off than last year in carrying out the Emergency Program," said Alfredo Gamito, who insisted on not mentioning the name of the referenced donor.

* Victims in Ressano Garcia Attack Rise

90EF0278A Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese
16 Feb 90 p 1

[Text] The number of fatalities in the attack by armed bandits on a passenger train on the Ressano Garcia-Maputo line, more precisely on kilometer 74, rose from 55 to 66, with the discovery and subsequent removal yesterday of nine more bodies that were also found in the cars and the forest. Of the number of victims we cited in yesterday's edition, it is known that 45 were taken to Maputo Central Hospital, while another 12 victims were taken by their relatives the day of the attack to the border town of Ressano Garcia.

In the criminal act described above, in addition to causing various injuries and extensive material damages, the bandits took with them an undetermined number of people, mostly miners who were returning from South Africa, and it is known that one of those kidnapped was killed at bayonet point on Wednesday and his body abandoned not far from the site of the attack.

Given the natural conditions of the area of the attack, high brush and trees, together with the high number of passengers traveling in the train to Maputo, it is possible that more bodies are still spread throughout the jungle, since according to accounts by some survivors, some people fled into the forest in a vain attempt at escape, because the majority were shot down by bullets or simply stabbed by the bandits who surrounded the area.

The commander of the National Border Guards troops in the town of Ressano Garcia, Alferes Issa Chomar Aly, said that in this attack the bandits utilized a high-explosive mine that hit the first cars, causing four cars and a wagon to derail as well as destroying the track for a 100-meter stretch.

The same army official revealed that the group of armed bandits, who he believed to be "logistics" troops, had infiltrated from South African territory, and their movement had been detected the very day of the attack in a zone 20 km south of Ressano Garcia. He added that after the occurrence of the attack at about 11:30 am in the region between Movene station and Chanculo, his unit did not arrive on the scene until approximately 3:00 pm

"because the train that was to take us was at Kommatipoort." After his arrival they began removing the bodies dispersed throughout the cars and the forest, as well as providing first aid to the injured.

As we stated at the beginning of this piece, the majority of the victims and the injured from this attack were transported to the Central Hospital in the capital, while others were taken by their relatives to Ressano Garcia.

When a team of local journalists arrived at the scene, units from the Armed Forces and militia from the Southern Mozambique Railroad Enterprise were busy removing the bodies of the victims from the wreckage of the cars and from the forest. While that was proceeding, some survivors who had been kidnapped during the attack searched for their belongings among the twisted rails.

We were told that the number of armed bandits that perpetrated this attack was between 15 and 20 men, who concentrated their criminal act on the cars in which many people were traveling, most of them Mozambican miners from South Africa.

Anita Francisco N'Wamba, who was released yesterday morning by the bandits in the company of five other people, said that while some were firing, others killed at bayonet point and ransacked the passengers' belongings. "I do not know how I escaped because I was in that car," she said, pointing to a car that had not been derailed.

After the massacre and the assault, which our witness said lasted some 30 minutes, the bandits withdrew from the area in a southerly direction, more precisely toward the area of Matsequenha. Anita also recounted that the majority of the people kidnapped were comprised of miners and women. "Because one of the miners appeared to be drunk, the bandits killed him not far from here," that citizen told us.

While the work of removing the bodies still remaining in the area of the attack was being carried out, a brigade from the Mozambique Railroad Works proceeded to place the toppled carriages and wagons back on the track. From the pace of the work it is anticipated that by today the work will be complete. As we could see, however, two carriages will remain indefinitely out of commission as a result of the destruction of their various systems.

The transport of passengers between Maputo and Ressano Garcia and vice versa will meanwhile be made through connections, because the direct route is not possible at this time.

Namibia

USSR's Shevardnadze Meets With Nujoma, Departs

MB2203172990 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1726 GMT 22 Mar 90

[Text] Windhoek March 22 SAPA—Progressive cooperation between Namibia and the Soviet Union would characterise the relationship between the two countries, Soviet Foreign Minister Mr Eduard Shevardnadze told Namibian President Mr Sam Nujoma as he left Windhoek airport on Thursday [22 March].

"The independence of Namibia opens the door to normal trade links with Namibia and will promote the injection of Soviet aid to development in Namibia," Mr Shevardnadze said.

He said he hoped the democratic constitution of independent Namibia would be an example to South Africa to work rapidly towards a total transformation that would lead to internal peace and stability.

"I had a meeting with South African President de Klerk during which we discussed matters in his country. He seems to have a firm grasp of the problems and a desire to work towards a solution.

"We will play a small role in promoting peace and stability in southern Africa with our talks with various leaders, but in the final analysis each country must solve its own problems."

He said flexibility rather than ideology should be the guiding light in resolving problems.

"We have realised, and so has the rest of the world, that negotiation rather than conflict is the path to peace."

He congratulated Namibia on her independence and finally shaking off the yoke of colonialism and joining the long line-up of independent states.

He said if the determination and devotion of Namibian President Sam Nujoma and his followers was used in the development of Namibia...then the people would reap the rewards of their hard work.

"The independence of Namibia marks the beginning of a new era in Africa, one of progressive cooperation in the interests of the people."

He said the sound relationship forged between the Soviet Union and SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] had established a basis for progressive cooperation between Namibia and the Soviet Union.

Kenya's Moi, Nujoma in Talks; Agreement Signed

*EA2203135090 Nairobi Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 21 Mar 90*

[Text] His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi and President Sam Nujoma of the newly independent Republic of Namibia today in Windhoek signed an agreement to extend by three months starting from today the stay of Kenya's 15th Battalion in that country. The battalion, which had hitherto been in Namibia on an agreement between Kenya and the UNTAG [UN Transition Assistance Group], will henceforth be there under the new bilateral arrangement between the two countries.

During the discussions, the two presidents discussed a wide range of bilateral issues, including the future cooperation between Kenya and the new nation of Namibia.

President Moi later installed President Nujoma as an elder of Kenya and a warrior by giving him a colobus monkey cloak, a matching headgear, a spear, and a shield.

Lesotho Foreign Minister Meets Officials

*MB2303143790 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1130 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, information and broadcasting, the Honorable Mr Tom Thabane, yesterday paid a courtesy call on the Namibian head of state, President Sam Nujoma, in Windhoek.

Mr Thabane took the opportunity to discuss issues of mutual interest between Lesotho and the independent Namibia. He also delivered a special message [words indistinct] His Excellency Major General Metsing Lekhanya to President Nujoma.

In his remarks, President Nujoma said that it is imperative for Lesotho and Namibia to cooperate on bilateral basis, for the two countries share a common destiny.

Earlier, Mr Thabane held discussions with the Namibian foreign minister, Mr Theo-Ben Gurirab, in which they covered a wide range of subjects, including issues of interests between their nations.

Prime Minister Geingob Praises United Nations

*MB2303073090 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 0500 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] The Namibian prime minister, Mr. Hage Geingob, said at the opening of the United Nations center in Windhoek, that the SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] government would in future be responsible for its own successes and failures, and that it would be impossible to blame the failures in apartheid.

He said the high regard Namibians had for the UN had been demonstrated by their selection of the UN Secretary General to perform the investiture of the country's

president. Mr. Geingob said the invitation to Dr. Perez de Cuellar to perform the investiture was the first of its kind for the UN.

Perez de Cuellar Addresses Media Briefing

*MB2203171590 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1653 GMT 22 Mar 90*

[Text] Windhoek March 22 SAPA—UN Secretary General Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar on Thursday [22 March] summed up his confidence in an independent Namibia when he expressed hope that South Africa would learn from the fledgling states democratic processes enshrined in its constitution.

Dr Perez de Cuellar was speaking at a media briefing after attending the inauguration of a United Nations centre in Windhoek.

"I expect South Africa to show that they have decided to dismantle apartheid. Obviously, much more must be done to illustrate to the world that apartheid is being dismantled. However, apartheid cannot be dissolved in 24 hours. But I am confident that the process has begun," the UN chief executive said.

Dr Perez de Cuellar added that in his 1-hour discussions with State President F.W. de Klerk, he was not asked to lift sanctions.

"Mr de Klerk is a distinguished president, and he knows that my role as an international civil servant does not empower me to give such undertakings. Therefore, he did not address the question of sanctions with me."

Similarly, he could not prescribe to Namibia on its relations with Pretoria.

"It is not for me to say whether they should have an economic or political relationship or not—the UN is not the nanny of the Namibian baby—we cannot tell the leadership what or what not to do. It is for the leaders of African and other countries to decide what relationship they have with the new Namibia," he said.

Dealing with Walvis Bay—which is still under the control of South Africa—Dr Perez de Cuellar said the world view on the enclave and surrounding islands was enshrined in UN Resolution 432, which recognises Namibia's rule over the areas in question.

"It is for the Government of Namibia to decide when is the right time to discuss this subject in international forums. But for the immediate, Namibia needs all the assistance it can get from other countries."

To this end, he said, a donors conference which he would personally convene would be held in June this year in Namibia.

Various Nations Establish Ties, Open Embassies**23 Diplomatic Missions Expected**

*MB2303140490 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1148 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Windhoek March 23 SAPA—Fourteen more countries have indicated they intend establishing diplomatic relations with Namibia, NAMBC [Namibian Broadcasting Corporation] radio news reports.

This would raise the number of diplomatic missions in Windhoek to 23.

Zimbabwe, Spain, Cuba, Brazil, Taiwan (Republic of China), Portugal, Norway and Switzerland would open offices in the city as soon as official agreements were reached with the Namibian government, news reports over the last week have said.

Egypt and Finland are already represented on ambassadorial level. The Organisation of African Unity confirmed it would open an OAU office in the country.

Canada, India and Kenya had indicated their observer missions would become high commissions. Head of the Australian mission, Nick Warner, said diplomatic and trade relations between Australia and Namibia would be conducted from an existing mission in a neighbouring country.

It was announced earlier that France, the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, East Germany and Denmark would also open embassies in Windhoek.

Yugoslavia, Poland and Algeria have also indicated they have established diplomatic relations with Namibia.

Angola's Dos Santos Opens Embassy

*MB2203144090 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1200 GMT 22 Mar 90*

[Speech by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos at the inauguration of the Angolan Embassy in Windhoek, Namibia; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] Dear comrades and compatriots: I take great pleasure in this opportunity to meet the Angolan community in Namibia. We are here to inaugurate our embassy in this new independent nation of Africa.

It is not by accident that we inaugurate this diplomatic representation of the People's Republic Angola immediately after Namibia's independence. Our decision to do so is the logical consequence of the multifaceted support we have granted the sister Namibian people for many years. The Namibian people fought a hard struggle to affirm their dignity, freedom and independence.

We want to emphasize our indestructible ties forged in our past struggles by immediately inaugurating this embassy here. We also want to convey our great interest

in deepening existing bilateral relations within the new legal framework created by the Constitution of the Namibian state.

As two independent and sovereign states in the same region, we want to develop the traditional policy of good-neighborliness that has always characterized our government and which has [words indistinct] all states with which [words indistinct] we are sure that the great civility and maturity displayed by the Namibian people on many occasions will help us achieve the desired climate of mutually advantageous cooperation for our peoples and nations.

As foreigners residing in this sister country, we hope and trust you will be able to continue honoring Angola's good name by collaborating with the legitimate authorities of this new independent country in their efforts to defeat the traumas of the past and the heavy legacy of colonialism.

We are aware that many of you are here because of the difficult situation in Angola. It arises from the armed conflict fanned from abroad. This conflict continues to prevent our people from safely dedicating themselves to reconstruction and development tasks.

We have used several channels and done what we possibly can to create conditions for restoring the peace the Angolan family needs and for helping Angolan citizens participate in the construction of a fully independent and prosperous Angola. Our political and economic reforms have been implemented in a slow but sure manner. Those reforms aim precisely at strengthening the participation of all Angolans in national affairs and helping them freely choose their own fate. In this way, we will isolate those who ignore our message of peace and continue to use weapons and terror against peaceful and often defenseless people.

We want to establish a favorable climate of trust and to perfect our legal system, so that all Angolans inside and outside the country are keenly aware of their rights and duties and so they can coherently and honestly choose the best solutions in line with their interests as citizens of a free country.

We hereby call on all those currently away from their fatherland to pay increasingly close attention to our peace and national reconstruction process. Better information will certainly help many return. They left the country because they lacked motivation [words indistinct] our enemy's false propaganda.

UNITA's [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] lies and calumnies have long prevented many of you [words indistinct] national harmonization and even concrete clemency and amnesty measures we took to help all those who have in various ways acted against the instituted power.

UNITA has long been an obstacle to the reintegration of many compatriots in the national [word indistinct] principally because of its (?ties) with the apartheid lords who, not satisfied with their illegal occupation of Namibian territory, saw fit to extend their domination to another independent country of southern Africa.

We all remember that the UNITA ringleader insulted all African people by attending former South African President Pieter Botha's inauguration ceremony. In turn, Pieter Botha violated the legitimate borders of the People's Republic of Angola on several occasions. Alongside Jonas Savimbi, he toured the areas occupied by the South African Army in southern Angola [words indistinct] Jonas Savimbi that Angola is extremely happy about Nelson Mandela's release [words indistinct] African leaders.

Thus, UNITA has no [words indistinct] took up arms to share power in Angola. UNITA has served as an instrument for foreign forces and interests in our country. It acts coldly and criminally against the accorded [words indistinct] its destabilization extends beyond Angolan territory. In the past, for example, it was a direct threat to the Namibian people fighting for their freedom and independence.

This sabotage of Gove Dam, which dramatically affects the Namibian economy and even the survival of the population in northern Namibia, is just one more [words indistinct] Angolan people and other people in southern Africa. This demands an organized and vigorous response from us. The Angolan people's sacrifices have greatly contributed to Namibia's real freedom and independence.

Namibia's independence offers promising prospects for just and lasting peace in Angola. Thus, we call on all of you actively to collaborate in the Angolan Government's ongoing efforts for a dignified resolution to the war problem.

We would also like to call on each of you consciously to participate in the construction of a prosperous, free, and sovereign Angola. Thank you very much.

Communique Signed With GDR

*MB2303094190 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0804 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Windhoek March 23 SAPA—Namibian Foreign Minister Theo-Ben Gurirab and East German secretary of state Dr. Werner Fleck have signed a communique on diplomatic relations.

The East German observer mission in Windhoek was converted into an embassy at independence, NAMBC [Namibia Broadcasting Corporation] radio news reports.

According to a news release the joint document based on the UN Charter ensure promotion of bilateral cooperation and understanding.

The former head of the mission, Dr. Hans-Georg Schleicher, will head the embassy in Windhoek.

Relations Established With Finland

*LD2203175290 Helsinki Domestic Service
in Finnish 1600 GMT 22 Mar 90*

[Text] Foreign Minister Pertti Paasio and Sam Nujoma, president of independent Namibia, have met in Namibia. Paasio and Nujoma announced the establishment of diplomatic relations between the countries. Nujoma thanked the UN peacekeeping force and special representative Martti Ahtisaari for their work in Namibia. Finland was the first country to recognize Namibia's independence early yesterday.

The TASS news agency reported a moment ago that the Soviet Union has also announced the establishment of diplomatic relations with Namibia.

Finland Signs Cooperation Agreements

*MB2203204590 Windhoek Domestic Service
in Afrikaans 1900 GMT 22 Mar 90*

[Text] Finnish Foreign Minister Pertti Paasio says his government is prepared to provide Namibia with about 130 million rand in the next four years, subject to mutual agreement.

Interviewed by the Namibia Broadcasting Corporation, Mr. Paasio said Finland and Namibia have signed an agreement establishing diplomatic relations. He added that the two countries have also signed an agreement of intent providing for development and cooperation programs. Mr. Paasio said his country's assistance will focus mainly on improving health services and training Namibian mining engineers.

During his visit to the country, he held discussions with President Sam Nujoma and several ministers and visited UNTAG's [UN Transition Assistance Group] Finnish battalion at Rundu.

Meanwhile, the Finnish Government said that it provided about 250 million rand in assistance to Namibia during that country's transition to independence.

On its departure, the Finnish battalion will donate equipment including ambulances, water tanks, and medical supplies to the Namibian Government.

Further on World Leaders Hold Bilateral Meetings

FRG's Genscher Meets USSR's Shevardnadze

*LD2203115590 Hamburg DPA in German 1049 GMT
22 Mar 90*

[Excerpts] Windhoek (DPA)—The Soviet Government considers the unification of Germany a "legitimate process." [passage omitted]

After the talk in the residence of the future Bonn ambassador to Namibia, which lasted longer than planned at 90 minutes, Genscher attributed a "new quality" to the forthcoming summit meeting at the CSCE. The negotiations in the autumn will no longer be concerned only with cooperation between East and West, but with the shaping of a common Europe.

Genscher proposed the formation of a "conflict center" in Europe—an idea which Shevardnadze described as an "interesting consideration. The Bonn minister announced intensive talks on the development of relations between the FRG and the USSR. He added: "It accords of course with the far-sightedness of the two governments that we will consider the future relations of a united Germany with the Soviet Union."

During the meeting, described by both sides as "very constructive," there was also talk of the planned meeting of foreign ministers of the two German states and the four Allies of the Second World War. Genscher said that the first "two-plus-four" meeting of ministers could be expected in the second half of April—after the formation of the new GDR Government. [passage omitted]

Mandela 'Briefs' Nigeria's Babangida

AB2203080290 Lagos Domestic Service in English
2100 GMT 21 Mar 90

[Text] President Ibrahim Babangida today joined other world leaders in Windhoek at ceremonies marking the independence of Namibia. Two Nigerian musicians, Samuel Okuson and Onyeko Nyere, performed at the ceremony. Reports say President Babangida had discussions with the vice president of the ANC [African National Congress] and his wife. The ANC leader briefed the president on the activities of the congress and the possibility of visiting Nigeria soon. General Babangida is expected home tomorrow.

Iranian Official Meets With Mandela

LD2203203590 Tehran IRNA in English 1722 GMT
22 Mar 90

[Text] Tehran, March 22, IRNA—Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Afro-Arab Affairs Hoseyn Sheykh ol Eslam met with Vice-Chairman of the National African [as received] Congress Nelson Mandela in Windhoek, Namibia, Thursday [22 March] morning.

During the meeting, Sheykh ol Eslam reiterated Iran's overall support for the struggle of African nations against racism. "President Hashemi-Rafsanjani has been keenly following up developments in Southern Africa," he said.

During the meeting, the deputy foreign minister invited Mandela to visit Iran.

Mandela praised Iran's stand in defending world liberation movements. He said the Iranian Muslim nation's

campaign led by the late leader of the Islamic Revolution Imam Khomeyni always encouraged them and other liberation movements.

He had been always informed of the resistance and achievements of the Iranian nation since the very beginning of the Islamic Revolution (culminated in February 1979), Mandela said.

He asked Sheykh ol Eslam to convey the message of friendship and cordiality of the nation of South Africa and the National African Congress to the Iranian nation, the leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i and President Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

He also emphasised on the stands of the National African Congress on release of all political prisoners, return of all those exiled, lifting of the emergency state, freedom of political activities for all anti-apartheid groups and annihilation of racism in South Africa.

In conclusion, he expressed hope to visit Iran in a near future.

Sheykh ol Eslam heading a delegation arrived in Windhoek Tuesday to take part in Namibia's independence ceremonies.

Mandela Meets Cuba's Almeida

FL2203185190 Havana Radio Rebelde Network
in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 Mar 90

[Text] South African antiapartheid leader Nelson Mandela has said he hopes to visit Cuba to personally express his appreciation to Fidel Castro and his people for the assistance rendered. He described Fidel as a capable man with a firm voice.

Upon receiving Juan Almeida Bosque, member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] and Cuban vice president, in Windhoek, the capital of Namibia, Mandela stressed the role played by Cuba in Angola because it led to a turning point in the situation of southern Africa without which the independence of Namibia would have been difficult.

Almeida, along with Jorge Risquet, member of the PCC Politburo; Division General Leopoldo Cintra Frias, chief of Cuban troops in Angola; vice foreign minister Giraldo Mazola; and Alcibiades Hidalgo, head of the Cuban observation mission in Namibia; participated in the ceremonies for Namibia's independence on 21 March.

In his first meeting with a high-level Cuban delegation, Mandela said that during his almost 30 years imprisonment, he always knew he had friends throughout the world. Cuba is a small country, the vice president of the African National Council of South Africa said, but the issue is not the size of its territory, but the firmness of its leaders.

For his part, Almeida told Mandela that his visit to Cuba would be a festival for our people and he added: You have been a shining force for all revolutionaries throughout the world.

Nujoma Says Anton Lubowski 'Patriot, Not Spy'

MB2203125690 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1251 GMT 22 Mar 90

[Text] Windhoek March 22 SAPA—Slain SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] activist Anton Lubowski had been a loyal son of Namibia and had never been a spy for a foreign government, Namibian President Sam Nujoma said at Windhoek International Airport on Thursday [22 March].

"Anton was a patriot, a loyal son of Namibia," Mr Nujoma told a SAPA reporter.

He said he would like to see the claimed evidence behind the allegation that Mr Lubowski had been a paid spy of the South African [SA] government's security apparatus.

The Harms Commission in South Africa said on Thursday it had received a sworn statement from military intelligence's Maj-Gen Witkop Badenhorst supporting the allegation that Mr Lubowski had spied for the SA Government and there was documentary evidence before the commission that Mr Lubowski had received payment.

Mr Nujoma challenged the SA Government to produce the evidence in public, adding he would not be surprised if the evidence had been fabricated.

"He [General Magnus Malan] probably did it to protect himself.

"Anton suffered too much...he gave up too much for Namibia ever to wish to bring about its downfall.

"He was a patriot, not a spy," President Nujoma said.

Geingob Reacts to Lubowski Spy Claims

MB2203110890 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1105 GMT 22 Mar 90

[Text] Windhoek March 22 SAPA—Namibian Prime Minister Hage Geingob said on Wednesday [21 March] he doubted the statement by the Harms Commission that it had irrefutable evidence slain SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] member Anton Lubowski was an SADF [South African Defense Force] agent.

Mr. Geingob said he wished to see proof of the claims.

"If it is true, and I emphasise if, then it gives substance to what we have indicated for many months, that South African spies have infiltrated the organisation (SWAPO).

"We were scorned when we labelled a certain people as political enemies. Now perhaps we will be vindicated."

He said, however, he wished to emphasise he did not believe Lubowski had been a spy.

"I simply find this difficult to believe and I would like to see this evidence," Mr. Geingob added.

NAMIBIAN Editor Comments

MB2203105290 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1044 GMT 22 Mar 90

[Text] Windhoek March 22 SAPA—Evidence before the Harms Commission concerning murdered SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] activist Anton Lubowski was "set-up" aimed at protecting the SADF's [South African Defense Force] Civilian Cooperation Bureau [CCB], THE NAMIBIAN newspaper editor, Gwen Lister, charged in Windhoek on Thursday [22 March].

"If there is any such evidence (that Lubowski was a paid SA spy) it must be given to the lawyers of the Lubowski estate so they can check it as well," Miss Lister said.

She believed the evidence on Lubowski was aimed at protecting the SA defence minister, Magnus Malan, "at all costs."

Windhoek lawyer Dave Smuts expressed shock at the finding.

"I find it extraordinary that a finding can be made without subjecting the evidence to cross-examination, and without giving the (Lubowski) family's legal representatives a full opportunity to examine the evidence," he charged.

The commissioner, Mr. Justice Louis Harms, said the inquiry did not intend launching a close examination of the evidence submitted by the SADF until facts proving the opposite had been brought before the commissioner.

In a snap debate in the SA Parliament last month concerning SADF involvement through the CCB in "hitsquads", Gen. Malan claimed Mr. Lubowski had been a paid agent of SA military intelligence.

His pronouncement elicited wide-spread disbelief among opposition politicians in South Africa and in Namibia.

Subsequently, the Harms commission's brief was widened to encompass Lubowski's alleged involvement in the SADF.

Zambia

* Recognition of East Europe's Freedom Commended

34000409C Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
27 Nov 89 p 1

[Text] Is the world witnessing the collapse of communist regimes in Eastern Europe? The answer is both yes and no. The reason for lack of a clear answer is obvious.

There is no communist state in the world and yet some oppressive regimes which have not even reached the state of a socialist state are associated with communism because that in any case is their goal.

When George Orwell wrote 1984 he was imagining that states which had professed to be communist would be so strong by that year that all freedoms—freedom of speech, movement, etc. would be suppressed.

He also predicated that such states would experience shortages of essential commodities. The book 1984 is behind but some of his predications were correct.

But Orwell must be wondering in his grave about the turn of events in Hungary, Poland, East Germany, Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union itself. There have been and there are demonstrations in all these countries for changes in governments and for greater freedom.

Some, like Poland, have already got non-communist oriented governments. Who would have thought that the Berlin wall which was built at high cost both politically and financially would one day be dismantled by the very people who built it?

It has happened and socialist party leaders who have been powerful for decades are now men of the yesterdays. This is the game of politics at its best. But the powerful men and women of Eastern Europe should have known that no politician has been able to fool all the people all the time.

They ruled their people in the name of freedom or democracy but democracy is one political commodity which the people did not get. This is the biggest weakness of the socialist states of Eastern Europe. Denial of human rights and freedoms turns such states into hangmen.

Capitalism is not the best system in the world. It is economically oppressive because it ensures that the rich becomes richer and the poor have even the little they have taken away from them. It is thus a cruel system but the masses in Eastern Europe are trying to clutch at a serpent like a drowning person.

What then are the lessons for the rest of mankind on earth? Eastern Europe has demonstrated that people can accept any government as long as they can have their freedoms. They must have freedom to speak their minds

for example. Freedom of the Press has become a must in a century dominated by an improved mass communications system.

* Slovo Urged To Disband Party, Join ANC

34000404A Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
27 Jan 90 p 1

[Text] The past two weeks during which the recently freed leading members of the ANC [African National Congress] visited Lusaka provided the outside world with the rare opportunity of having a fleeting but eye-opening peep into the thinking of the liberation movements of South Africa.

The education came from the ANC itself, the Pan Africanist Movement (PAM) and the Communist Party of South Africa.

A leader of the PAM Cde Johnson Mlambo stated his group's stand before a Frontline heads of state summit held at State House on Monday that apartheid could only be removed by force of arms.

But the track record of the PAM (formerly the Pan Africanist Congress, PAC) doesn't show the movement has ever scored any success on the battlefield. Where will it find the means and the men this time when South Africa is more strongly armed with sophisticated weaponry?

Leader of the Communist Party Cde Joe Slovo joined the ANC chorus that there should be some softening in that apart from armed struggle, efforts should be made to reach a political settlement.

Cde Slovo might as well be encouraged to disband his organization so that he unites fully with the ANC to forge a more formidable fighting and talking front.

What is more interesting is what came out of the three-day ANC national executive committee meeting that President Kaunda officially opened on January 18.

In its resolutions the ANC "reiterated" its commitment to negotiate and agree to a mutual suspension of hostilities.

But a few days later in Tanzania the ANC's commander of the armed wing Umkhonto we Sizwe (spear of the nation) Cde Joe Modise appeared to speak with a divergent tongue when he said:

"The question of armed struggle was scrutinized at our (Lusaka) meeting and the common position was that it must be intensified to a level greater than before... This year is going to see a rapid escalation of attacks on strategic installations and the enemy's manpower."

Which is which? One can see that the ANC still lacks unity. It needs to close its ranks as the President rightly cautioned its leaders in his opening address.

The question of leadership of the movement is also paramount. How neatly are those being released from prisons being welcomed into the ranks of the ANC?

It will be good for the ANC to adopt a double strategy.

At the same time a negotiated settlement should not be abandoned but those who will sup with Frederik de Klerk must use long spoons otherwise talking will be mere jaw, jaw. Nobody wants that.

*** Frelimo, MNR Incited To Make Concessions**

34000404B Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English
11 Jan 90 p 1

[Text] A golden opportunity has been lost once again in Africa's efforts to resolve the Mozambican civil war that has been haunting this region for almost 14 years.

Mozambican President Joachim Chissano reports that the mediation process brokered by Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe and his Kenyan counterpart Daniel arap Moi has foundered.

It is regrettable that the MNR [Mozambique National Resistance] led by Afonso Dhlakama has rejected holding direct peace talks with the Maputo government but with Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] as a party. Does it really matter?

It is now difficult to see any other way out of the impasse because without the parties agreeing to talk issues over what is left is continuation of the war.

The war has undoubtedly cost Mozambique heavily in both human and material resources. It is disastrous and should not go on.

Hundreds of thousands of civilians have been killed; more than two million people have been displaced, infrastructure like roads, bridges and buildings have been destroyed and there is virtually no development taking place in the country.

That is as tragic as it is terrible for Mozambique has abundant natural resources which would have made it a shining and prosperous nation in Africa if they were exploited in a peaceful climate.

Perhaps we should not heap the blame on the MNR alone because according to Cde Chissano's new year party message last week the question of sharing power with Dhlakama's organization cannot be considered.

If Frelimo does not want power-sharing but is convinced that it is a popular party why not allow others to challenge it at a free and fair general election like SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] did recently in Namibia? Let the people give the mandate.

In a draft constitution which Cde Chissano has circulated there is provision for any Mozambican to run for president as long as he meets certain requirements. That is progressive indeed.

If that will be the case why shouldn't there then be another party to field its own candidate against Frelimo's because experience has shown that it is difficult in a one-party system to have more than one presidential candidate?

We are afraid that if both Frelimo and the MNR stick to their positions of adamancy the problems of their country would remain and they will be blamed by posterity.

We said in this column on November 20 "... only they and their people are the losers in civil war".

Nobody is pleased with the fighting; least of all Zambia whose people living on the Mozambican border have been disturbed.

*** Paper Says Resettlement Must Respect Rights**

34000409D Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English
25 Nov 89 p 1

[Text] Talk of going back to the land or resettling loafers in the rural areas in Zambia has always been a serious, contentious and an emotive subject.

The mere mention of this subject immediately sets off a heated argument in which some people are heard to hold that while repatriating idle people from urban centers to the rural country-side is fundamentally good for national development, the action is illegal as it flouts their constitutional right of free movement.

President Kaunda, concerned by the unabated drift from the villages to urban areas and its attendant offshoots of crime and so on, returned to this issue at his last Press conference on Wednesday.

The President renewed his appeal to the unemployed in towns to return to their villages where they could contribute meaningfully to society by tilling the land.

Recognizing that numerous appeals have in the past floundered, President Kaunda laced his latest appeal with an attractive incentive package for those willing to return to the villages. The package includes free food for one year.

Judging from the tone and intensity of his words at the Press conference, it is more than apparent that the President intends to make this appeal his last. He warned he was not prepared to go on tolerating crime in towns and gave June 30 next year as the deadline for heeding his call.

Some people rightly argue that forced repatriation of the jobless to the country-side in the present legal circumstances would amount to a blatant infringement on one's constitutional rights.

It is added that any re-allocation of citizens against their free will would similarly amount to a significant repudiation of UNIP [United National Independence Party]'s founding principles enshrined in its pre-independence manifesto.

These and other related points have evidently been always well taken by the Party and its leadership. As well as appreciate that fresh legislation needs to be promulgated to effect such re-allocation, our leadership seeks to tell us that the times and circumstances have drastically changed—and the need for development has unarguably become a priority urgency.

While it is agreeable that the leadership has a very good case, we would urge it to try and make conditions for those willing to return to the villages more attractive and make a more concerted effort of uplifting living standards "back home".

This gesture can in itself be the automatic and very legal inducement for the backward flow to the country-side.

* Five Million Canadian Dollars for Spare Parts

34000405A Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
16 Jan 90 p 9

[Text] Canada is to give Zambia K95 million [kwacha] (five million Canadian dollars) as balance of payment support in form of essential spare parts and materials, under the memorandum of understanding signed in Lusaka yesterday.

Finance and Planning Minister Cde Gibson Chigaga and Canadian high commission to Zambia, Mr David Reece signed the agreement.

Cde Chigaga said that under the agreement Zambian organisations would have access to Canadian commodities, goods and technology required to increase the productive capacity.

He said the Zambian Government was grateful to the Canadian government for helping the country's structural adjustment programme by providing the much needed balance of payments support.

"This transfer of goods and technology will greatly assist road haulage and the agricultural sectors for which it is meant," he said.

Cde Chigaga said the Canadian government assistance had also come at the right time when the Zambian Government's policy had laid great emphasis on diversification to agriculture.

As part of the process of restructuring the economy, the programme would improve the construction and maintenance of feeder roads whose bad state had hindered speedy haulage of crops every marketing season.

He said the programme represented continued evidence of the commitment of the Canadian government to the Zambian Government structural adjustment efforts.

Cde Chigaga described Canada as an all-weather friend and a dependable ally even in the most difficult times.

Mr Reece said the funds were aimed at helping Zambia in revitalising its agricultural and industrial sectors.

He paid tribute to President Kaunda for the bold and courageous measures he announced on June 30 last year on the economic recovery programme for Zambia.

He said the new package represented tangible evidence of the Canadian government's commitment to helping Zambia in that endeavour.

The goods and materials are expected to be shipped to Zambia in three months.

The International Food for Agricultural Development (IFAD) has loaned 69 grinding mills to the farming community of North-Western Province, ZANA reports.

The mills, according to IFAD's programme coordinator Cde Boniface Munalula, have a potential to save the Government K14 million annually on mealie meal if their milling requirement were fully met.

In a report submitted to the just ended provincial council meeting in Solwezi, Cde Munalula said the grinding mills were capable of serving 18,436 families.

"Sixteen of the grinding mills have been sent to Kasempa, seven to Mwinilunga and 46 to Solwezi," he said.

Meanwhile, the company has also loaned haulage trucks to transporters in the province and has sent them to Kasempa, Mwinilunga and Solwezi.

* Inflation Forces Union To Request Pay Raise

34000405B Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
2 Feb 90 p 7

[Text] The National Union of Commercial and Industrial Workers (NUCIW) has demanded that salaries for shop workers be reviewed from the current K520 [kwacha] a month to K1,000 or more.

NUCIW general secretary Cde Ignatius Kasumbu said in an interview in Kitwe yesterday the union had submitted demands to the Ministry of Labour and Social Services to repeal the statutory instrument which pegs the entry point at K520 for shop workers.

"But we are surprised that since we submitted our demands to the ministry last month there has been no response. It is important that salaries of our members be reviewed."

The cost of living had risen too high for one to survive on K520. He indicated the union intended to fight for more than K1,000 as basic pay for shop workers.

Cde Kasumbu also said a meeting between NUCIW and the Manufacturers Association scheduled to discuss

salary increases and conditions of services for workers in the clothing industry was postponed on Wednesday.

The negotiations could not go ahead as only a handful of representatives from the association attended.

*** Union Head: Devaluation, Decontrol a Hardship**

34000405C Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
27 Jan 90 p 1

[Text] The MUZ [Mineworkers Union of Zambia] has deplored the price decontrol and Kwacha devaluation measures taken by the Government, alleging that they have fallen short of assisting the economic recovery programme.

MUZ chairman and Member of the Central Committee Cde Timothy Walamba said in Kitwe yesterday that the measures had only managed to push the rate of inflation which has made life of workers extremely unbearable.

Officially opening MUZ supreme council meeting in Katilungu house, Cde Walamba said it was not easy to lead people during the current period of greater economic depression.

"This is so because a hungry person is a frustrated and angry person. This is why our members are anxiously looking forward to their union to improve their standard of living. This is a big challenge to all of us," Cde Walamba said.

He told the council that prices of food, beverages, tobacco and many others continued to rise, especially that the measures to decontrol prices and devaluation of the Kwacha were taken along with a hike in oil prices.

"But it is plainly clear that the measures of devaluation of the Kwacha and decontrol of prices have fallen short of assisting our economic recovery programme, resulting in serious inflationary pressures," he said.

He said the level of inflation fluctuated between 60 and 80 percent for the low income group during most part of 1989 while the consumer index for the high income group registered an increase of 45 percent compared to 57 percent for the other group.

On mine safety, Cde Walamba said there were a total of 1,362 accidents with 24 fatalities in 1988 compared to 1,219 and 29 fatalities last year.

The figures reflected a slight decline in reported accidents and an upward trend in total ones. There was need therefore to put in more efforts to correct the situation.

He also praised ZCCM [Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines] management for performing well in the last financial year saying it reflected excellent industrial relations between the company and the union.

*** Transport Problem Hampers Education, Food**

34000405D Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
24 Jan 90 p 1

[Editorial]

[Text] Education is very important and yet in Zambia, it would seem, it is one subject which some people find easy to trifle with. Why it should be so is certainly mind boggling.

First, when one looks at the current fees being charged in some schools like the International School, Lusaka, Simba and Nsansa (Ndola), Lake school, Lusaka and Lechwe in Kitwe, one gets the impression the idea really is to "disarm" and not arm the Zambian children with "knowledge and skills that will make them dependable future leaders," to quote ANC [African National Congress] leader Cde Nelson Mandela.

It is true to say that most Zambian parents cannot afford the exorbitant fees some of these expensive and elitist schools are charging. Only foreigners and expatriates whose companies pay such fees for them can afford, Lechwe is levying for example, K10,500 per term.

Why should these private schools be allowed to put education beyond the reach of the indigenous people? Unless the Party and its Government steps in, education in Zambia will soon become the preserve of outsiders—and Zambians will be consigned perpetually to the role of "hewers and drawers of water."

Private schools must exercise restraint when fixing fees. They should not use the changed economic environment (decontrol and devaluation of the Kwacha) and hold the poor Zambian parent to ransom. They should do their calculations in Kwacha terms instead of reflecting them in US dollar terms.

Reports of pupils stranded across the country on account of lack of transport or impassable roads are becoming too numerous and disturbing.

Yesterday it was reported, for instance, that Chipepo Secondary School in Gwembe district faces closure because most pupils have failed to report because of lack of transport.

From 1,000 pupils only 300 have reported for the new school term which started on January 8, while their unlucky colleagues are still stranded at Chisekesi, Monze and elsewhere.

What is even more galling is the news that teachers who are starving have abandoned their classrooms in search of food from surrounding villages while K500,000 worth of mealie meal and rice for the school is stuck at the boma because truckers won't risk their vehicles on impassable roads.

Every Zambian child has a right to education and anyone who is seen to be depriving him of this fundamental right must be disciplined. We therefore call upon

Ministry of Education authorities and their colleagues in relevant ministries to pull up their socks and make the life of pupils in rural areas bearable.

* Basic Rights in Farm Resettlement Plan Urged

34000401B Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
25 Nov 89 p 1

[Text] Talk of going back to the land or resettling loafers in the rural areas in Zambia has always been a serious, contentious and an emotive subject.

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those willing to return to the villages more attractive and make a more concerted effort of uplifting living standards "back home".

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* NHA Reports 11 Million Kwacha Profit

34000401D Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
29 Dec 89 p 1

[Text] The National Housing Authority (NHA) this year made a profit K11 million [kwacha] compared to K8 million last year.

Confirming this in Lusaka yesterday, NHA chairman Cde Aldridge Adamson said the authority further projected to make K22 million profit next year.

Cde Adamson, who is deputy secretary to the Cabinet said his organization was financially sound and was not sinking despite the current economic problems facing the country.

At a board luncheon held at the Inter-Continental Hotel, he said that although NHA was a statutory body it did not receive any subsidy from the central Government except for loans from commercial banks to enable it perform as viable institution.

He informed the luncheon which was attended by NHA managing director Dr David Simonda and permanent secretary in the Decentralization division in the Prime Minister's office Dr Gatian Lungu that the authority was paying high rates for the money borrowed from commercial banks.

"I have just been chairing the second board meeting where we declared a profit of K11 million for the year ending December 31, compared to K8 million last year and this profit is in relation to the fact that we did not receive any subsidy from the Government," he said.

The NHA board meeting was the second this year to consider the budget for next year.

Speaking at the same function, NHA board member and national chairman of the Zambia National Union of Local Government Workers Cde Hurbert Bweupe said the NHA management should not be surprised to be asked for better conditions of service including high pay because it was the workers who had made it possible for the company to make more profit.

* Iran To Explore Aid to Farm, Medical Sectors

34000409A Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
28 Nov 89 p 1

[Excerpt] Two Iranian delegations are currently in the country assessing Zambia's needs in the medical and agricultural sectors, visiting Iranian foreign minister Mr Ali Akbar Velayati said in Lusaka yesterday.

Speaking when he called on Party Secretary-General Cde Grey Zulu, Mr Velayati said his country had completely wiped out malaria which was a deadly disease and was prepared to help Zambia eradicate the scourge.

He told the Party chief who was with Foreign Affairs Minister Cde Luke Mwananshiku that Iran attached great importance to preventive health care which would be suitable in Zambia.

Accompanied by Iranian ambassador to Zambia Mr Pakaein Mohsen, Mr Velayati said Iran's agricultural progress and experience had enabled her to offer assistance.

He disclosed that Prime Minister Gen Malimba Masheke on his recent visit to Iran signed a memorandum of understanding which was a framework for mutual cooperation.

Earlier, President Kaunda said Zambia supports the cause of the Islamic revolution in Iran since it was founded on the importance of man as the center of existence.

Under the leadership of Ayatollah Ruholla Khomeini, Iran had done a great deal to uplift the standard of living of the people since the Shah regime was ousted.

Cde Kaunda said this when he hosted a working breakfast for Mr Velayati at State House.

Cde Kaunda said he had paid a visit to Iran at the invitation of the Shah and was sad with what he saw there.

"What I saw in Iran made me sick politically and spiritually and I vowed never to visit that country again as long as the Shah was in power," Cde Kaunda said.

When the Shah was in power, there was so much wealth in Iran but there was also a lot of poverty.

Zambia prayed for the complete settlement of the Iran-Iraq war and a small contingent of Zambian defence personnel had been sent to go and assist in the search for peace in the area.

The Islamic revolution was building a civilization based on man as the center and should try to build bridges with other religions.

Mr Velayati told the President that Iran shifted its foreign policy and now concentrated on the Third World especially Africa.

At a luncheon hosted for Mr Velayati at Hotel Inter-Continental by his counterpart Cde Luke Mwananshiku, the Iranian minister said his people were determined to strengthen bilateral links with Zambia.

Cde Mwananshiku expressed hope that the two nations could build further on the bilateral foundation. [text missing]

* Farm Policy Said Marked by 'Inertia'

34000409B Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English
5 Dec 89 p 1

[Text] The rainy season is again with us and sadly our perennial failure as a nation to prepare for this important season in terms of farming 'has once more been brought to the fore.

The Party and its Government's intention to diversify the economy away from copper to agriculture is well known for what it is: Sound. But is enough being done to realize this noble ideal to attain food self-sufficiency?

The answer is certainly a negative and big NO. We say a big no because people charged with the responsibility of implementing Party and Government policies in the agricultural development are simply sleeping on the job.

For instance, how does one explain what is happening in Kalomo and Choma where peasant farmers are still not paid their dues by the cooperative unions so that they could but their seed and implements.

The deadline for planting is December 15—that is ten days away; and there is very little sign to suggest that the hapless peasant farmer will be paid his money. Very frustrating indeed.

And yet it is a well known fact that peasant farmers in Zambia produce close to 60 percent of our total maize requirements. Surely, don't they deserve a better deal than they are getting at present?

Imagine what the situation would be if the nation had to lose their contribution. Of course, the commercial farmers who produce the remaining 40 percent can be relied upon to fill the vacuum but they, too, are experiencing a labyrinth of problems arising from inefficiency by someone somewhere.

On the Copperbelt, area Member of the Central Committee Cde Rankin Sikasula ordered the Copperbelt Cooperative Union (CCU) to pay the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) K300,000 balance the lending institution was demanding before it could release fresh loans to farmers.

It is important that other cooperative unions with similar problems follow suit and pay the farmers immediately so that they can plant on time if they are to expect a good harvest and contribute to Zambia's efforts to reach food self-sufficiency.

After 25 years of independence, Zambia should have by now developed a good crop of local agriculturalists to oversee the implementation of Party and Government policies vis-a-vis agricultural development. But we seem, instead to have succeeded in developing "vegetators."

This breed of "vegetators" (who just sit in offices) should be weeded out before they choke the agricultural industry which should flourish with each rainy season.

Zimbabwe

USSR's Shevardnadze Addresses News Conference

*MB2303084090 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 0600 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] The Soviet foreign minister, Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze, says the independence of Namibia has raised prospects of peace in Angola and Mozambique.

He was addressing a news conference in Harare on his arrival in Zimbabwe after visiting Mozambique.

Mr. Shevardnadze said the Soviet Union was doing much to bring about peace in the region and that it had not been by chance that it had taken part in the Namibian independence celebrations.

Earlier, in Maputo, Mr. Shevardnadze had praised president Chissano's government for intending to begin talks with the Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] movement to end the 13 year civil war. He promised continued Soviet Support for efforts to find a political solution to the conflict.

Mr. Shevardnadze, who has also visited Zambia, will leave Zimbabwe on Saturday for Tanzania and Nigeria.

Meets Mugabe in Kadoma

*MB2303080990 Johannesburg SABA in English
0751 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Kadoma, Zimbabwe, March 23 SABA—Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe Friday [23 March] met visiting Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze for breakfast talks in Kadoma.

Mugabe's election campaign trail yesterday took him to Kadoma and today he is scheduled to address rallies in Gokwe, Zvishavane and Gweru, ZIANA news agency reports.

Shevardnadze, who is on a nine-nation African tour, the first such visit by a high ranking Soviet official, arrived in Zimbabwe Thursday after attending Namibia's independence celebrations.

In his talks with Shevardnadze, Mugabe told the visiting Soviet foreign minister that Zimbabwe did not believe changes in Eastern Europe marked a defeat of the East by the West.

"At the moment the West feels that they have been victors over the East and people like Mrs. Thatcher say so quite loudly. But we have refused to accept that this period of review and revision is necessarily a victory for the West," said Mugabe.

He also told Shevardnadze that he was presently electioneering as he wanted many people to vote in next week's general election.

"We are certain of victory but this is the first time that the people are voting for the president as individuals," he said.

Shevardnadze said in the Soviet Union they had found that democracy was a complex issue, to which Mugabe replied that there was nothing like absolute democracy.

Visits Heroes' Acre With Shamuyarira

*MB2303130590 Johannesburg SABA in English
1246 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Excerpt] Harare March 23 SABA—Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze visited Heroes Acre in Harare on Friday [23 March] and layed a wreath at the tomb of the unknown Soldier in tribute to the thousands who lost their lives in the war to "liberate Zimbabwe from colonial subjugation and white minority rule".

ZIANA, the country's news agency, reports the visiting minister was shown around Heroes Acre by Zimbabwean Foreign Minister Nathan Shamuyarira, who is expected to host a luncheon for him later.

The two men are expected to hold discussions Friday afternoon.

Earlier Friday, the Soviet foreign minister held talks with President Robert Mugabe over breakfast in Kadoma, about 140 km south-west of here, before the president left to continue his hectic election campaign with a series of election rallies in Gokwe, Zvishavane and Gweru.

Mr. Shevardnadze, who is on a nine-nation African tour, the first such visit by a high ranking Soviet official, arrived in Zimbabwe on Thursday after attending Namibia's independence celebrations. [passage omitted]

Comments on South African Situation

*MB2303145790 Johannesburg SABA in English
1446 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Harare March 23 SABA—Visiting Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said on Friday [23 March] the world had no cause to hope the release of political prisoners in South Africa constituted a major change in the political situation there, the news agency ZIANA reports.

At a lunch in his honour hosted by Zimbabwe Minister of Foreign Affairs Nathan Shamuyarira, Mr. Shevardnadze, who is here on a brief official visit, said there was no doubt, however, the Pretoria "regime" was falling.

"No one should have either the reasons for euphoria or hope that the situation inside South Africa, as far as apartheid is concerned, has changed substantially.

"We, however, see a clear indication towards dialogue. But, in the meantime, the changes which have taken place so far have not yet become irreversible," he said.

The Soviet foreign minister said his country was not emphasising confrontation, because the price of this was too high.

Similarly, the USSR did not disagree with the current efforts being made in the search for a solution to the basic problems in South Africa.

South Africa was the only country in the world which had a legal policy of racial segregation against blacks.

Earlier, Mr Shamuyarira praised Soviet involvement in solving regional conflicts throughout the world.

He condemned South Africa for its delay in meeting all the conditions set out in the Harare declaration, an ANC [African National Congress]-backed negotiation blueprint designed to end the apartheid system and introduce democracy to the majority in South Africa.

"What has happened is equally important as it paves the way for serious discussion on the question of apartheid," he said.

Both Mr Shamuyarira and Mr Shervadnadze attended the Namibian independence celebrations on Tuesday.

Ivory Coast

Houphouet-Boigny Chairs Political Bureau Meeting

AB2303134490 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
1245 GMT 23 Mar 90

[Text] President Houphouet-Boigny, head of state and chairman of the Democratic Party of the Ivory Coast, this morning as expected, chaired the meeting of the Political Bureau extended to members of the government. The working session took place from 1000 to 1200 and a communique is expected.

Government Recognizes Namibian Independence

AB2203135290 Dakar PANA in French 1745 GMT
21 Mar 90

[Text] Abidjan, 21 Mar (AIP/PANA)—Felix Houphouet-Boigny, the Ivorian head of state, sent his congratulations today to his Namibian counterpart, Mr. Sam Nujoma, on the occasion of the independence of the youngest state of the world.

"This event, the Ivorian president wrote, is the concrete outcome of the courageous struggle of the Namibian people for their right to dignity and national sovereignty." President Houphouet-Boigny took the opportunity to reiterate his country's commitment to cooperation with all countries that share the same ideals and added that as of today 21 March, Ivory Coast recognizes the new Republic of Namibia. He then gave the assurance that the new and young republic could count on the Ivory Coast to carry out ideals that will serve peace and active solidarity for the benefit of a united and prosperous Africa, the Ivorian head of state concluded.

Liberia

President Doe Lifts Ban on Radio, Newspapers

AB2203091690 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
0709 GMT 22 Mar 90

[Text] On the occasion of the independence of Namibia, President Samuel Kanyon Doe has ordered the immediate reopening of the Catholic radio station, ELCM. He has also announced the lifting of the ban on the FOOT-PRINTS newspaper and the SUNTIMES newspaper.

A release issued by Information Minister Emmanuel Bowier said the gesture by the president was meant to show Liberia's freedom of the press. Minister Bowier also explained that the reopening of the various media institutions was in response to appeals made to the president by several individuals, including some Nigerian journalists.

It should be recalled that recently, in his annual message to the Liberian legislature, the president commended the

press, especially the independent press, for the cooperation exhibited in recent times. He expressed thanks and appreciation to President Doe for his magnanimous display of statesmanship [sentence as heard].

Information Minister Emmanuel Bowier called on executives of media institutions in the country to do all within their power to ensure a free and responsible press in the country.

Niger

PLO Leader 'Arafat Makes Stopover, Comments

AB2303090890 Niamey Domestic Service in French
1200 GMT 22 Mar 90

[Text] The PLO leader, Yasir 'Arafat, made a technical stopover in Niamey this morning. Mr. 'Arafat, who arrived from Windhoek, where he attended the ceremonies marking the independence of Namibia, was welcomed by Prime Minister Aliou Mahamidou and greeted by the speaker of the National Assembly and the chairman of the National Development Council. Also at the airport were members of the cabinet and diplomatic corps. Let us listen to Yasir 'Arafat stressing what the independence of Namibia means to him:

[Begin recording] ['Arafat in Arabic with simultaneous translation into French] I am very happy about the victory won by our brother, President Sam Nujoma, and about the independence of his country. It is also the victory of the South-West African People's Organization which has succeeded in achieving all its objectives. This victory is not for Namibia alone, but for the entire African Continent and all people struggling for their independence. This independence is the indication of the forthcoming victory of Palestine, especially since I have said that the Namibian example can be emulated in occupied Palestine. [end recording]

Nigeria

Babangida Returns From Visits to Zambia, Namibia

AB2203213990 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 22 Mar 90

[Text] A national seminar on Nigeria's role in Africa in the 1990's is to be organized by the Federal Government. President Ibrahim Babangida announced this in Lagos today on his return from a four-day official visit to the Zambia and Namibia. General Babangida, who was speaking with correspondents at Murtala Muhammad Airport, said the government would ensure that all segments of the society were duly represented at the seminar. The president said there was a need to adopt fresh strategies should South Africa dismantle its obnoxious system of apartheid. He said the government (?has

already been working) on this theory. He described his meeting with the South African nationalist leader, Dr. Mandela as fruitful.

Pact Signed With United States To Combat Drugs

*AB2303090090 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 21 Mar 90*

[Text] Nigeria and the United States today signed a memorandum of understanding on collaboration to tackle the problem of illicit production, trafficking, and abuse of hard drugs. The document was signed on behalf of the two countries by Prince Bola Ajibola, the attorney general and minister of justice, and the American ambassador to Nigeria, Mr. Lannon Walker. Judiciary correspondent Tonny Elisha was there:

[Begin Elisha recording] The agreement is another step in the joint efforts between the two countries to combat the problem of illicit trafficking and peddling in hard drugs. It commits the governments of the two countries to set up a joint task force on narcotics. The United States is to provide material and training assistance to Nigeria's newly created National Drug Law Enforcement Agency. The agreement provides for Nigeria to encourage her airline, Nigeria Airways, to introduce security measures on flight operations to the United States. The airline should also conform to the guidelines of the United States customs service.

The guidelines are a measure designed to protect Nigeria Airways from embarrassment prompted by incidents of smuggling which may incur penalties for the airline. The agreement is a direct result of the mutual assistance treaty which both countries signed in Washington last September.

On the occasion, Prince Ajibola gave the background to relations between Nigeria and the United States on mutual assistance on criminal matters. Criminal discussions resulted in the signing of an executive agreement of 1987 under which Nigeria received some assistance.

Prince Ajibola said the war against narcotic abuse was now a global one which has been so recognized by the United Nations. He said all countries were being asked to sign all protocols beginning from the one of 1961 and the 1988 Geneva Convention. The minister said Nigeria was the third country to sign the Geneva Convention which the United States signed early this year. Prince Ajibola classified the trafficking nations into producing, consuming, and transitting countries. Nigeria is a conduit pipe and the minister promised that the traffic would be stemmed fast. The United States envoy, Mr. Walker explained that the issue was not a problem involving his country and Nigeria alone. He said it was one area of collaboration between them. Mr. Walker noted the efforts of Nigeria to combat the narcotic business. [end recording]

Senegal

Yugoslav President Arrives for Visit 22 Mar

*AB2303084890 Dakar Domestic Service in French
2000 GMT 22 Mar 90*

[Text] Dr Janez Drnovsek, president of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, arrived early this evening in Dakar. He was met on arrival by President Abdou Diouf.

*** Free Speech Limited by Opposition Meeting Ban**

*34190058B Dakar SUD HEBDO in French
21 Dec 89 p 1*

[Editorial by Babacar Toure: "Beware!"]

[Text] Does Senegalese democracy function at two different speeds? The recent banning of some public meetings of the opposition would incline one to think so. Meetings of "And-Jet" have been systematically banned. The PDS [Senegalese Democratic Party] meeting last 10 December suffered the same fate. The Democratic League/Movement for the Labor Party was able to hold its 9 December meeting, but its members had to endure exploding firecrackers that could have injured them and could have created panic with dramatic consequences. The provocateurs are still at large, while some peaceful demonstrators are in jail.

On 16 December And-Jet was again the victim of harassment for attempting to organize a march to protest the bans that the government—in the name of law and order—leaves to the discretion of the prefects.

Paradoxically, during the same period the Socialist Party, its satellite organizations, and the various groups of the "friends of Jean Collin" put themselves on public display throughout the national territory. They did so with the blessing of the administrative authorities, who put no obstacles in their way, and under the protection of the police—the same police who did not hesitate to attack with extraordinary brutality the no more than 100 members of the opposition who had participated in a peaceful and disciplined demonstration. One also has to wonder about the motives underlying this discriminatory behavior, the repetitive and unilateral nature of which makes one fear that a part of the governmental apparatus has decided to prevent the opposition from performing its principal function, which is: to oppose.

Under these circumstances it has become obvious that those who are not allowing the opposition to play its role will attempt to liquidate it if it ever ventures onto the other course—the one leading to its ultimate goal: the conquest of power. Clouds are hovering over Senegalese democracy. Everything is taking place as if somewhere evil spirits were striving to cause the collapse of the edifice that every single one of us has the duty to consolidate. Hypotheses that are, to say the least, bizarre

are becoming the object of increasing interest in proportion as the situation becomes increasingly illogical. For example, it is rumored that within the government apparatus there are factions engaged in a subversive effort whose results will benefit neither the government nor the opposition (but perhaps the Army?) including—it is being whispered—an attempt to prepare the ingredients for an explosion of violence timed to coincide with the imminent return of the head of the PDS, on the theory that this is the only way they would handle the situation.

The nervousness of the government, coupled with the frustrations of an opposition whose rights are flouted, threaten to wind up in a more explosive "cocktail" than the events for which 1988 is remembered in sorrow. There is still time to get control of the situation, which is too serious for the head of state—protector of the Constitution and guarantor of our freedoms, as he once again reminded us in receiving the delegation from the Union of West African Journalists and the delegation from the International Organization of Journalists—not to ensure that our basic law is respected and create the conditions for the advent of a genuine arbitral state anxious to preserve civil liberties.

Experience has shown that the administration—prisoner of its own anachronistic nature—will not subscribe to democratic change unless constrained or forced to do so...by the state.

The expression of these liberties is too serious a matter to be left to the judgment of certain prefects or governors. That is to say, unless other motivations are involved that do not square with the requirements of democracy.

* Opposition, PS 'Block' Democratization

34190058C Dakar SUD HEBDO in French
28 Dec 89 p 3

[Editorial by Babacar Toure: "The Appointments That Were Not Kept"; first paragraph is SUD HEBDO foreword]

[Text] As the period foreshadowing the dawn of the 1990's comes to an end, Senegalese democracy has not yet completed its journey on its road to Calvary. Despite the multiplicity of political groupings, the complete multiparty system has not yet created a dynamic for reorientation of the nation's political and economic system. Far from it.

The existence of 17 political parties has not opened the way for progress in Senegalese thought or Senegalese society. On the contrary, never has a wasteland in the area of the renovation of ideas been so "desolating." The truth is that from the standpoint of quality, the political parties worthy of the name can be counted on the fingers of one hand.

Actually, the law of natural selection has prevailed, and the people of Senegal have been able to make their choice

of parties, thereby, limiting the field of self-proclaimed political leaders who lack legitimacy. In the area of party platforms, the scene is rather one of stagnation. The Socialist Party [PS]—in power for 29 years—has not developed its liberal precepts. In reality, its socialist label has never been authenticated by a consistent orientation or manner of administration.

The governmental program put into effect by the party of Leopold Sedar Senghor (and subsequently of Abdou Diouf) follows more closely the orientations established by the money lenders, and especially the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, which has an endogenous strategy and tactics.

For their part, the political parties of the opposition—where all the tendencies are confused—vie with each other in their immobility and self-contemplation. Although each political party in the opposition regularly holds a party congress, what emerges in the form of party platforms boils down to a list of good intentions.

It is a far cry from in-depth debates and proposals on crucial questions such as jobs, health, and a secure food supply (self-sufficiency?). Concrete proposals have been made only in the case of education, at the close of the General Assembly held on that subject in 1981. The conclusions reached by that body—which were set aside by the government—continued to be ignored, and eagerness to participate gave way to mistrust, exclusion, and invective.

However, when in 1981 Abdou Diouf accepted the reins of government from the hands of Leopold Senghor, the nation was filled with hope. Because of his youth and his reputation as an achiever, the man who then chose to be president of all the Senegalese people was accorded a state of grace that he did not know how—or was unable—to turn to his advantage. In 1983 when his personal aura would have enabled him to obtain a consensus for decisive change, he, instead, yielded to his own indecision, to palace intrigues, and to deception perpetrated by his own party. Indeed, for fear of allowing themselves to be overshadowed significantly by Abdou Diouf, the Socialist Party decided to stuff the ballot boxes and compel him to endorse the massive fraud that characterized the 1983 elections. This stuffing of the ballot boxes enabled the party to reduce significantly the gap between the votes cast for the president and the votes that would have gone to the PS for the legislative seats. The new legitimacy given him at the ballot box did not prevent Abdou Diouf from missing the boat, however. He neither changed parties, nor changed the party, as many of his fellow countrymen both within and outside the party had hoped. More precisely, he lacked the wisdom or the will to make the drastic changes that the situation demanded. Twenty years before, President Senghor had chosen to devote all his energies to constructing a tentacular and patrimonial state on the model of the French colonizers, from whom he had just received the baton of authority. The year 1988 is another landmark in the tortuous evolution of the Senegalese

democratic process. The sudden entry in force of the nation's youth onto the political stage, the social consequences of the Structural Adjustment policy, and the pauperization of the working classes combined into an explosive "cocktail," which in turn was amplified by the massive fraud that nullified the ballots of thousands of voters of the opposition. The infernal cycle of instability, riots, and repression that followed the imprisonment of some leaders and members of the opposition did not, however, end in the disaster that had been so greatly feared. Although the spring had been violent, the summer witnessed an initial effort to relax tensions and a failed attempt at dialogue, and backlashes within the army hierarchy were suppressed. The postelection shocks were followed by a truce among the contending forces that was interrupted by the agitation in support of the demands of the students and the unions.

The parallel monologues of the government and the opposition paid little attention to that other element whose appearance on the scene is currently an object of controversy: the Senegalese Civil Society. Highly regarded by the press and by broad sectors of public opinion outside the realm of politics, the Society—whose profile remains hazy—nonetheless, is expressing its views through prominent individuals and independent channels including the privately owned print media, which circulates without any restrictions and in complete freedom, whereas, the government-controlled media are bogged down in their negation of any form of plural expression.

In this context, the democratic professions of faith that intersperse the hesitation and incoherence of Senegalese political circles are such as to cause many observers to doubt the capacity of the principal protagonists (government and opposition) to protect the essential part of the process, namely the strengthening of democracy.

The current standpattism bodes no good because it is the exact opposite of democracy, which is life, movement, opposition, and excellence. Now that the breaking points have been identified, it is time to bring to fruition the inevitable alliances.

* Eighties Saw Unions Multiply, Jobs Decline

34190058D Dakar SUD HEBDO in French
28 Dec 89 p 9

[Editorial by Hussein Ba: "Between Disaffection and Radicalization"; first paragraph is SUD HEBDO foreword]

[Text] It was to the rhythm of two realities—the democratic opening and the structural adjustment—that the Senegalese labor movement evolved throughout the 1980's.

The political turning point represented by the democratic opening that occurred at the end of the preceding decade had the effect of enveloping the social scene—which was in full ferment—in the grip of a dynamic for

change. Propelled into the presidency following Senghor's voluntary departure, the new president, Abdou Diouf, quickly turned his attention to the National Confederation of Senegalese Workers (CNTS), for two reasons. In the quest for legitimacy—and above all, for consolidation of his power—he regarded control of the CNTS machine (an important lever of established power) as a strategic political option. The "barons" of the party were still powerful. In the second place, reorganization of the confederation had proved to be necessary in the context of the labor strife then prevalent largely because of the underground dynamism of the clandestine Left.

In this way a convergence of interests was created that linked the desires of the secretary general of the Socialist Party and the ambition of a crafty and ambitious labor leader, Madia Diop. Madia Diop was the man Abdou Diouf needed. This is the whole story of the "renewal" movement formed by the Madia Diop group that swept minister Babacar Diagne from the leadership of the confederation.

The homogeneity of this movement did not last long, for several years later its leadership became entangled in its own contradictions. The temporary alliance formed between two men as different as Madia Diop and Alioune Sow broke up in the full glare of publicity. The conflict between the CNTS secretary general and his principal lieutenant evolved into a bloody battle between their respective followers at the Labor Central during which a Madia Diop supporter, Daouda Ngom (whose name the CNTS Central bears today), was killed. The PS [Socialist Party] Political Bureau expelled Alioune Sow from the party; the CNTS had previously taken a similar step.

Far from monopolizing the debate, the confederation had to confront the specter of autonomy, and for good reason: the decade of labor union activities was equally characterized by the growth of the current of opinion within organized labor that was demanding autonomy vis-a-vis the government. The electrical workers, health care workers, communications workers, technicians, and postal and telecommunications workers in succession formed their own unions.

Previously unknown acronyms such as SUTELEC [expansion unknown], SYNPICS [National Union of Senegalese Information and Communication Professionals], and SUTSAS [Single Union of Health and Welfare Workers] positioned themselves on the national chessboard in an indefinable pattern. Alioune Sow, himself, completed the picture in 1987 by creating his own confederation, the Democratic Union of Senegalese Workers (UDTS). The undeniable success of the autonomy movement was lessened, however, when the single teachers' organization, SUDES [United Democratic Trade Union Federation of Democratic Teachers], which had been a model of trade-union unity, disintegrated into a multitude of groups following a series of ideological and political disputes. The original SUDES

gave birth to the Democratic Union of Teachers (UDN) and the Independent Trade Union of Teachers in Higher Education (SAES).

Were there labor disputes? Lots of them! They were promoted by the economic crisis and by the implementation of the structural adjustment programs. They included two strikes at the Senegalese sugar company, one of which attracted public attention with the arrest of a trade-union deputy of the CNTS; the Dakar-marine dispute; the resistance of the workers in the fishing industry; the unprecedented—and successful—strike of the LE SOLEIL workers; the dispute of the Thies railway workers; and the action by the commercial drivers during which the secretary general, Moustapha Toure, was arrested, sentenced, and imprisoned. One might also mention the bizarre case of Sardinafrique and, in particular, the major strike by SUTSAS, the unproductive year in the Senegalese schools because of the rebellion of the students and pupils and the teachers' walkout, the SUT-ELEC strike, and the opposition of SYTBEFS [Union of Senegalese Bank and Financial Institution Workers] to the restructuring of the banking system. And of course, certain provisions of the Labor Code. So many disputes!

Despite the social discontent, the disruption of the economy continued under the stimulus of the Structural Adjustment program.

From 1981 to 1989 more than 15,000 jobs were lost. "Truth in pricing" impoverished workers by reducing their purchasing power. The consequences of the acute crisis through which our country is passing have instilled panic among the workers and, thereby, stimulated the reflex of survival through cooperative action. Sometimes it is individualism that carries the day, with everyone trying to resolve his or her problems by different means. Who knows what to do? In any case, one notes the absence of any basic political demands in the argumentation of the trade unions, in contrast to the militant oratory of the 1970's.

Indeed, the political opposition will regret the absence of this link to the labor movement, which would have brought it greater success following the postelection events of 1988. What is the underlying cause of this indifference of the workers to the political process? The politicians are looking for a "magical answer" to this most basic question. Are unions going to vanish from the scene? The trade-union movement is today passing through a crisis. The CNTS is gasping for breath, the crisis is radicalizing its rank and file, and the independent unions are proliferating but are unable to reach agreement on an alternative to the CNTS.

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